DRINK AND ENJOY LIPTON'S TEA

A "J.B." PEN—a little ink—A HAPPY MAN. Continued on Page 14.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXIX, No. 754. SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1921. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

Provide for Yourself and Your Family by taking out an Endowment Policy with the CITY LIFE Assurance Co., Ltd., 6, Paul Street, FINSBURY, E.C.2.

Managing Director: Leonard Aldridge.

Write for particulars now.

Plot to Kill the KING Exposed

TO REGULATE THE LIVER DISSOLVE THIS IN YOUR MORNING TEA.

"Stop dosing all the year round with strong habit-forming and liver-irritating cathartic drugs. Instead, try this more natural and lasting way. Then you can soon forget you have a liver," says

W. G. EAST, *Cambridge Coach for 30 years*

IF a drug is so powerful that a few grains will irritate the liver or bowels to violent convulsive action, it is powerful enough to do other even less desirable things. It is like whipping a tired horse, and the use of strong cathartic stimulants can only be followed by weakening reactions which call for constantly stronger doses. I am also convinced that grossing the intestines by dosing with oils which hasten the passage of food but prevent the thousands of absorbent glands from acting upon it to extract nourishment is another common but very serious mistake. Like any other filter the liver should be thoroughly flushed out and cleansed occasionally. It secretes about one and three-quarter pints of bile daily. Any congestion or obstruction of the ducts and consequent derangement of the bile flow will give rise to one or more of such troubles as biliousness, headaches, lassitude, stomach trouble, rheumatism, skin diseases, coated tongue, fetid breath, and a host of other disorders, some of them seldom attributed to a disordered liver. Call body poisons whatever you like, germs, microbes, bacilli, toxins, uric or stomach acids, etc., etc., but they are all simply impurities, and form the primary cause of most diseases. Few will doubt the truth of this, but if any sufferer from the above ailments does feel sceptical, he can easily get rid of his doubts and his ailments at the same time by introducing the necessary alkaline elements into the liquid he drinks.

W. G. East.

This is what happens when people visit the world-famous springs and drink the wonderful medicinal water found there. It is why they return home feeling as though they had received a brand new set of digestive, blood purifying, flushing and stimulative organs. This of necessity means a well-nourished body, good digestion, steady nerves, high vitality, clear eyes, healthy skin, good colour, and entire freedom from bodily aches or pains. In short, it means increased efficiency, both physical and mental.

To purify the blood and rid the system of poisons, never dose yourself with still more poisons in the form of powerful drugs like calomel (mercury) or other drastic purgatives and cathartics which cause bowel movements simply by irritation, and even collect in tissues or attack the bones. Also avoid the use of cheap, impure salts, etc., which may form lime deposits in the joints, or cause kidney and bladder troubles and gall stones.

THIS ALKALINE WATER IS BETTER THAN MEDICINES TO CLEANSE THE LIVER, FLUSH THE KIDNEYS, AND GET RID OF BODY ACIDS, POISONS, etc., etc.

Not one person in a hundred knows how to stimulate and cleanse the Liver properly, nor flush the Kidneys thoroughly. Not one in five hundred over the age of forty does either of these often enough.

Journeying to expensive hot springs is no longer necessary, for the waters have now been accurately analysed, and their exact constituent elements made known to the medical profession.

Such purely temporary expedients often become habit-forming and cause still worse suffering later on. They remind one of the character who, when possessed by a devil, set loose seven others to catch the first, only to find himself possessed in the end by eight devils instead of one.

Instead of taking strong tonic drugs, etc., with their depressing reactions and bad after constipating effects, try drinking before breakfast and once or twice at any convenient time during the day for a week or so a tumblerful of strongly alkaline hot water, containing such harmless but active and natural liver-stimulating, kidney-flushing, blood purifying, acid-neutralising and system-cleansing ingredients as magnesium, lithium, sodium calcium, etc. These are the active principles of medicinal constituents found in such world-famous mineral waters as Vittel, Contrexeville, Vichy, Carlsbad, Ems, Wiesbaden, Marienbad, and various others which wealthy sufferers once felt well justified in travelling thousands of miles to visit. Many of these resorts are difficult and expensive to get to, but no one need worry about that now, because, since the waters have all been officially analysed, similar medicinal water can easily be made by anyone at home.

The best way, and in fact the only satisfactory way I know of, to prepare the water at home is to obtain the necessary mineral ingredients already compounded in just the proper proportions and ready for immediate use. The name of the compound which physicians prescribe for this purpose is *Alkia Saltrates* (powder-form); it can be had at little cost from any chemist. The average dose is a level teaspoonful, or less, dissolved in a tumbler of hot water and it forms a very palatable drink with no disagreeable bitter, salty, sour or otherwise objectionable taste. A mere pinch in one's morning tea will work wonders and its presence cannot be detected. Unlike pills or many nauseous medicines, salts, syrups, etc., it is very suitable for children, but, of course should be given them in especially weak doses.

SPECIAL NOTE.—We are informed by Saltrates Ltd., (Dept. 60 P), 214, Great Portland Street, London, W., who prepare a very high grade of Alkia Saltrates, that during the next ten days they are willing, as an advertising offer, to supply anyone interested in the product, with a regular 1/9 size packet free if applicant cares to send eightpence for the postage, packing, etc.

For a Spotless Home Use "GRE-SOLVENT"

Unequalled for really cleaning dirty pots, pans, woodwork, linoleum, baths, and tiles. "Gre-solvent" is indispensable in the household and is much more effective and economical in use than soap. And a daily wash with "Gre-solvent" keeps the hands beautifully soft, white and smooth.

Obtainable from Grocers, Ironmongers and Stores. In tins, 4½d., 8d., 1/9.

Get a tin to-day—but always insist upon the original

GRE-SOLVENT

You Save Money

in Home Baking, by using the famous British-made raising agent,

BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER

the quality of which makes a little go such a long way.

One teaspoonful is equal in effect to two teaspoonfuls of most other raising agents.

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WORLD'S BEST CYCLES

reach the highest point of constructional dependability and all-round excellence. The finest cycle value on offer and the embodiment of British cycle perfection. Light, easy running. Warranted 10 years

DELIVERED carriage paid to all approved orders for 30/- with order. Balance in 10 monthly payments of 20/- if satisfied. Money instantly refunded in full if at all disappointed

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is Henri Fabre's estimate of the progeny of a single GREEN FLY in a six months' season if unchecked.

START SPRAYING EARLY WITH "SOPHOS"—the harmless liquid that requires no washing off. 5 oz. (⅓ teacup) makes 1 gallon and costs 3d. Large bottles 1/4 from your Grocer. ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES. Write for testimonials to Makers—PETREL AMMONIA WORKS, WATSON ST., GLASGOW

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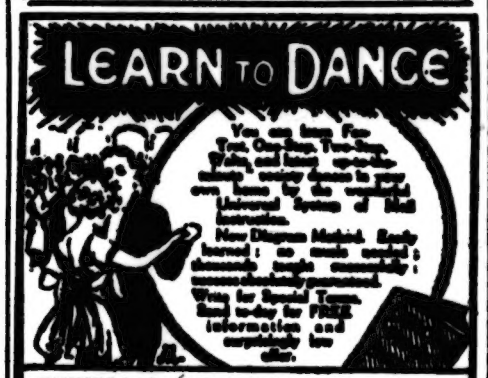

You can learn Fox-Trot, One-Step, Two-Step, Waltz, and latest up-to-date society dances in your own home by the wonderful Universal System of Mail Instruction.

New Diagram Method. Easily learned; no music needed; thoroughly taught successfully; success absolutely guaranteed.

Write for Special Terms. Send to-day for FREE information and surprisingly low offer.

UNIVERSAL INSTITUTE of DANCING, Dept. (W.) Sardinia House, Kingsway, W.C.2.

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New "SARTOR" Offer

The Famous SARTOR RAINCOAT for the Summer Holidays at a BARGAIN PRICE.

The Superb Summer "Sartor" is well worth Three Guineas. The Manufacturers will supply it direct until the close of the Summer Season at the Bargain Price of 25/6, carriage paid. You are requested, however, to send in your order AT ONCE. THIS OFFER is only possible because we are the MANUFACTURERS and have the largest RAINCOAT business selling direct to the Public of any firm in the world.

25/6 Carriage Paid.

SARTOR RAINCOATS

are made in many Styles and Shades for Ladies, Gents, Maids and Youths.

Every Sartor is fully lined with a smart check material, and equal in fit, style and quality to any Raincoat sold in shops at double the price.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded in full. Write to-day for Free Patterns and Style Book.

SEND NO MONEY before you are convinced that such high value as Sartor value cannot be obtained elsewhere.

THE SARTOR MANUFACTURING CO. (Dept. J.J., 53, Oxford Road, MANCHESTER.

Cycle there this year

COMMENCE enjoying your holidays from the minute you break up! don't be stifled and jostled in a train! go in comfort on a cycle fitted with a

BROOKS SADDLE

"The Seat for First-class Travel."

J. B. BROOKS & CO., LTD., 92, Criterion Works, Birmingham

Write now for your copy of the Brooks Book.

Extreme Nervous Breakdown

Sleepless and Dyspeptic. Strain of Five Years' War Service. Cured by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Mr. E. H. CARR, 173, Dawlish Road, Leyton, London, E.10, says:—"The strain of five years with the Colours, I suppose, told on me, for just before being demobilised I began to feel run-down and nervous. This grew worse when I came home, and at last I was almost a nervous wreck. Sometimes I could hardly keep still, and always I was ready to jump at a sound. Headaches bothered me a good deal, and my sleep was disturbed. After food wind formed, and there was pain, too, sometimes before I had even touched my food. This state of things had gone on for months with no sign of improvement, in spite of all the advice and medicine I had. In the end I made up my mind to try Dr. Cassell's Tablets, and am truly glad I did. In a surprisingly short time I felt the benefit. Food ceased to cause pain, and I slept better. From then on I rapidly improved; my nerves became steady and the indigestion passed away altogether.

Dr. Cassell's Tablets

The Universal Home Remedy for

Nervous Breakdown	Anæmia
Nerve Failure	Kidney Trouble
Malnutrition	Indigestion
Neuritis	Back Pains
Nervousness	Spinal Weakness
Sleeplessness	Wasting

Specially valuable for Nursing Mothers and during the Critical Periods of Life.

Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd., Manchester.

HOME PRICES 1/3 & 3/-

(the 3/- size being the more economical). Sold by Chemists in all parts of the world.

Ask for Dr. Cassell's Tablets and refuse substitutes.

TAKE TWO TABLETS

at bedtime and note how well you sleep; continue and you will know the joy of health and vigour.

Equally Suitable for Children.

Makers direct offer to "John Bull" readers. Sports Coats made to measure at half shop prices and sold with money-back guarantee

Don't buy your Sports Coat from a retailer. Half the money goes in the middlemen's pockets. Buy your Sports Coat direct from makers and save money. The Raymont is made to your individual measurements from your choice of cloth and is cut on the smartest West End lines by men tailors. Not one Raymont is ready-made or altered to fit.

Raymont SPORTS COAT

MADE TO MEASURE **25/-** WHY PAY MORE?

Made in a wonderful range of new season's cloths. Perfectly tailored throughout and honestly worth double the price. TROUSERS and VEST to match at slightly extra cost — making the Raymont into a smart summer suit.

Send no Money—Patterns Free. P.C. brings batch of beautiful patterns, booklet and measurement form. Patterns for made-to-measure Lounge Suits (42/-) Raincoats (36/-) Overcoats (55/-) Ladies' Wrap Coats (35/6) Skirts (12/6, 25/-) Costumes (63/-) on request

Raymont, Ltd., Dept. 8 Finsbury Pavement House, London, E.C.2.

On my "sole" these are great!

Light—Resilient—Durable. Made by the makers of the famous "Waterloo" Heels and Tips.

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RUBBER SOLES & HEELS

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WONDERFUL SUCCESS OF THE CURICONE HOME CURE.

Inventor Generously Gives Away Books and Trial Packages Free to all Sufferers.

If you have pains that shift from joint to joint, or recurring "catching" pains, Chronic Rheumatism is creeping on. Check this trouble at once—don't delay—waiting won't help you. You can cure yourself at home with that wonderful discovery called "Curicones." Write for a free trial packet and a copy of that valuable book "The Story of a Rheumatic Cure." It tells you the secret of this remarkable discovery. Its success is extraordinary in cases of

RHEUMATISM, NEURITIS, GOUT, LUMBAGO, AND SCIATICA,

curing where every other remedy has failed. It is the only preparation, as far as we know, which cures Rheumatism.

A Human Barometer

A RECENT CURE.

"I have had Rheumatism for over ten years. I was in bed a long time and could not walk. One of my boys sent me a cutting telling of a cure from 'Curicones,' and said, 'Do try it, Mother, for *John Bull* would not publish it if it was not genuine.' I did try it, and before long I was able to throw away my stick. I am pleased to say I now do the work of my cottage and three lodgers' war work besides. I cannot speak too highly of your wonderful 'Curicones.'" Yours truly, G. Madge.

Who can doubt the efficacy of "Curicones" with such evidence as this? Follow this lady's example and watch your daily progress to recovery. "Curicones" not only stop pain, but go direct to the root of the mischief, eliminating the cause, not merely relieving unpleasant symptoms.

Doctors and Red Cross Hospitals have sanctioned "Curicones"—in our opinion one of the greatest distinctions in the annals of medicine—so you are risking nothing by sending to-day for the FREE book and package. Give name, address, and ailment. A postcard will do—

STEPHEN MATTHEWS & Co., Ltd., Manufacturing Chemists (Dept. C), 15-21, Farringdon St., London, E.C.4.

BACON OILSKINS will always keep you dry

Men's Coats from 22/6, Ladies' from 22/6, Children's from 8/- (2-year-old size). Adult's Sou'-wester, 3/6; Long Leggings, 6/-. All guaranteed against stickiness, leakage or dissatisfaction on money-back methods.

Illustrated List Post Free. Send P.C. now to BACONS, LTD., 67, Bacon Buildings, South Shields, England.

JOHN BULL

"Here shall the Press the People's right maintain,
Unawed by influence and unbribed by gain."—*Joseph Story.*

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"The hope of all who suffer,
The dread of all who wrong."
Whittier.

Vol. XXIX. No. 784. Week ending Saturday, June 11th, 1921. Twopence.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

The Leipsig Trials.

How much longer is this farce to continue? And when are the trials of the big criminals—"whatever their station"—to begin? We deal with the subject elsewhere.

A Tired Parliament.

This Parliament is already very tired, and the Whips have the utmost difficulty in "keeping a House." The sooner it is prorogued—and dissolved—the better.

Getting On.

At last the Independent Parliamentary Group is being officially recognised. It was allowed to move the new writ for Hertford, and was also invited to nominate a member of the new Estimates Committee.

The Wakeford Case.

Having produced the "Girl in the Cathedral," we are busily pursuing our search for the "Lady at the Hotel"—always assuming such a person ever existed. Meanwhile the innocent little lady whom we discovered is being besieged by film producers. Lucky girl!

Sueter for Hertford.

Things are just beginning to boom in Hertford. The advent of Admiral Murray Sueter has fairly "put the cat amongst the pigeons," and the Coalition is quite reconciled to the formal addition of a member of the Independent Group. With an Admiral, a General, a Colonel and a Major, it's becoming "some" Group!

Quite True.

By the way, the *Pall Mall and Globe*, apropos of our statement—to which we adhere—that Admiral Sueter was the originator of the Tank, says that the pending election "has the merit of settling this very vexed question." It will also settle one or two others.

Birthday Honours.

So our friend "Dal." has got his peerage, and there are other newspaper "honours" in the list. Mr. Lloyd George evidently intends to keep his Press. Who most of the remaining recipients of titles are, and what their claims to recognition were, are questions of which, in Parliamentary language, "we must have notice."

M.P.s and Their Salaries.

We purposely refrained from taking any part in this discussion—as, although decidedly opposed to the idea of Members voting themselves money, we do feel very strongly the great hardships inflicted upon poor men in the matter of railway and hotel expenses, to say nothing of postages and other similar items. At the same time, we suppose we must avoid invidious distinctions!

Morbid Curiosity?

A short time ago a party of ex-Servicemen were being shown over the House of Commons, and having everything of interest pointed out to them—when one of them exclaimed, "It's all very interesting; but what we really want to know is, where does Mr. Bottomley sit?"

Worn Out Horses.

The great Albert Hall meeting is bearing good fruit, and steps are being taken to establish a "Save the Horses National Council," with which we have gladly associated ourselves. Meanwhile, congratulations to Colonel Burn on getting through his Bill extending the existing law to the Channel Islands.

ONE-WEEK
CRICKET COMPETITION.
£250
FOR TEN.
For Free Cricket Coupon see page iii of Cover.

Not Us.

Several correspondents have written us apropos of the recent visit of the Crown Prince of Japan to Edinburgh, having confused our distinguished friend Hirohito with ourselves!

Brave, Lord Mayor!

All honour to the Lord Mayor for his splendid scheme for providing entertainment in the parks and other places for the benefit of London children. That's the stuff to give 'em!

Sweepstake Law.

We are busily engaged preparing for the test case to settle once and for all whether or not a sweepstake organised by a *bona fide* club is within the law. Meanwhile, we observe that the Dudley Police have hauled before the Justices an official of the National Federation of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers for organising a Derby Sweep for the relief of distress amongst destitute ex-Service men. Surely they might have found something better to do.

The "Flying Squad."

We are second to none in our admiration of the Police Force—and that is why we are all the more disturbed by well-authenticated reports which have reached us respecting the manner in which men, guilty of lapses in the past, but who made good during the war, are pursued—we had almost written "persecuted"—by what is known as the "Flying Squad." We appeal to the members of this force to act upon our own view that every man's history really began on August 4th, 1914.

Brave, *S.E.T.*!

Our congratulations to the *Sunday Evening Telegram*—the only journal which gave Humorist for the Derby and Love in Idleness for the Oaks. That was good Sunday reading, indeed!

The War Exhibition.

It is strange how weary the people have become of the War and everything relating to it. We are told that at the Crystal Palace the total attendance is "a mere handful." We are, indeed, a wonderful nation!

A Cynical Suggestion.

One of our readers suggests, apropos of the statue of Washington being set up in St. Paul's, that we "should flank such an enormity" with busts of Gandhi and De Valera—with one of George III. "in the chief Baptist chapel at Washington." What a cynic!

Mr. Bottomley's New Paper.

The excitement grows. Every hoarding in the Kingdom is proclaiming the advent of *Sunday Illustrated* on July 3rd. The newspapers will soon be doing the same; over a million copies are already ordered, and advertisers are clamouring for space! No, it is *not* too early to order your copy.

Ministers' Honour.

We are not sure that the mere fact of the obscurity of a newspaper is a sufficient excuse for ignoring it when it makes grave charges against the integrity of members of the Government. These charges in *Plain English*, apropos of a garbled report—for market purposes—of the Battle of Jutland, must be sifted.

"Shake!"

According to the new American Ambassador, there was a time "when America regarded John Bull as a somewhat arrogant individual, whilst he in turn looked upon the average American as 'a trifle arrogant.'" Now, it appears, these grotesque caricatures have "passed into oblivion" and have given place to "the beautiful figures of Britannia and Columbia." So come, Uncle Sam, put it thar!

Our Canadian Critics.

Paragraphs are frequently appearing in Canadian journals calling us the Randolph Hearst of Britain. We notice with satisfaction that several readers of such journals have written protesting—one of them describing us as "without doubt one of the most popular, most loyal, and most respected men in the British Empire." The first of the three compliments does not much interest us, but we are grateful for the other two.

Hung at Last.

Probably as the result of a recent suggestion in our columns, the rejected artists of the Royal Academy are to be hung at last—hung not separately but all together. The City Corporation have offered them the hospitality of the Guildhall Art Gallery, and 10th June to 13th July will see them in all the horror of their tragedy, or in all the glory of their martyrdom, dangling by cords and chains from the walls. Of its sort, the exhibition ought to be the rage of London.

A Humane Decision.

We congratulate the Towcester Board of Guardians on their decision to afford out-relief for the child of an unmarried mother. The first payment may be made on their own authority, but the Poor Law so stands that subsequent payments can be made only with the sanction of the Ministry of Health. We hope this Department will be moved by the same sympathetic spirit that actuated the Towcester Guardians. Nature may visit the sins of parents on their children to the third and the fourth generation; but that is no reason why this harsh law should be administered too slavishly by Guardians of the Poor.

Healthy Age or Disabled Youth?

A Manchester reader joined up in 1915 at 18 years of age, and was discharged in shattered health, less two ribs and with an injured lung, in 1918. He refused to accept for hard and laborious work (in his condition) 25s. a week, and was promptly sacked. Repeated applications and prolonged search for work have been unavailable, until a chance apparently turned up in the Post Office. But he was told that, while losing a limb might have gained him consideration, still preference was being given to long-service men—though we cannot see how a healthy veteran is in greater need than this badly disabled youngster.

A Pretty Thin Yarn.

A landlord received from his tenant a registered packet, with label: "Found open and officially sealed." Enclosed was 30s. less than the amount mentioned by the tenant as being sent. After filling up numerous forms, many interviews, and amassing quite a collection of official postcards, compensation was refused by the P.M.G. His astounding statement ran that no notes had been found, no one was suspected in the Post Office, and that the letter was delivered intact, the "found open" label being "merely attached for attention to memoranda written thereon"! For sheer unadulterated impudence, the writer of this excuse is a prize-medallist.

Who's Who and What's What?

"Assistance Wanted, evenings, £2 to £4 a week." Such is the bait which Don Manuel Montt and Sons, the Psycho-Analytic Publishing Co., of 28, Essex St., Strand, W.C., hold out to the unemployed readers of newspapers. When applicants offer their services they receive a printed circular stating that Montt's are "using the American Army Alpha system"—whatever that may be—"for the selection from applicants," forms being found in a certain psychological publication, price 2s. This is so novel a method of collecting a staff for the "University Reference Library," of the same address, that we are curious to know whether anybody on earth has been fortunate enough to be selected.

Door-to-Door Doggerel.

We can appreciate the feelings of a London resident when he complains that poetry-peddling by ex-soldiers from door-to-door has become an exasperating and even poisonous nuisance. He sends us a copy of some doggerel verses, price 2d., distributed in Linden Gardens, W., to "help an unemployed ex-Service man." A pedlar of this class can hardly do much good to the worthy cause of Old Bill & Co.

Baleful Bye-laws.

Enforcement of the bye-laws of the Edmonton Education Committee with respect to the employment of children undoubtedly puts a great hardship on newsagents. In one instance they will practically ruin a business established for over 17 years. Boys over 16 years of age command wages which the little business, run in this case by two sisters dependent upon it for their living, will not stand. Lying abed of a morning and larking in the streets at night are not necessarily the best equipment of lads for their lives as men.

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When everything seems at sixes and sevens, the best cure is to spend a quiet half-hour with the "Passing Show."

On Sale everywhere, 2d.

Cadging as a Job for Heroes.

Replying to an advertisement which afforded no indication of its originator, an ex-soldier received an offer purporting to come from Mrs. Currie, Hon. Sec. Children's Free Meals Society. Subject to approval, he was offered £1 a week expenses, and 25 per cent. bonus on collections over £2. This proposal to pester and molest the public, to cultivate a brazen persistency in cadging—realising that if people will not give one must starve—is a pretty proposition to a man broken in the wars, and who only asks *work!*

Wrong Side of the River.

Another instance of the anomalous restrictions of the Miscontrol Board crops up in a case at Winstree, Essex, against the licensee of the Thatcher's Arms at Mount Bures. As certain farmers, who had been supplied with beer with their lunch before 2.30, were found drinking at 3.20, the Magistrates had to convict. The anomaly is that if these men had gone to the public house over the river, half-a-mile away, they would have committed no offence, for in Suffolk there are no restrictions whatever. "Silly Suffolk" is evidently a land fit for cheerios to live in.

"Rattle His Bones!"

Considering the scurvy treatment to which many of our ex-Service heroes are subjected while living, it hardly occasions surprise to find them receiving scant consideration when dead. Our remarks are inspired by the refusal of the Burnley Cemetery Committee to allow the burial of war pensioners without payment of the usual fee—a decision which does them infinite discredit, when it is considered that the disability that led to death was in a great many cases brought about through the war. If we cannot make this country fit for heroes to live in, the least we can do is to make it fit for heroes to die in.

Made in Germany.

If we are to credit the statement of a Penzance lady, some at least of the bullets with which Sinn Fein does its murdering in Ireland are made in Germany. A "poor boy here," she affirms, "is dying of a wound received in Belfast while he was searching for arms. The bullet was of Hun manufacture." If this story is true, it suggests that the Germans are supplying the means of bloodshed in Ireland in peace as they supplied it in war. What are the Government doing about it?

Post Office Lessee.

The abolition of the Sunday deliveries will act as a great hardship in many country districts; and by far the best thing the Government could do would be to lease the postal, telegraph and telephone services to a syndicate of business men—which, we are certain, without curtailing present facilities or making any further increase in charges, could run the Department at a profit.

What of the Ninety-and-Nine?

It appears that out of 18,160 candidates for posts in the Civil Service open to temporary and ex-Service men, as many as 14,000 failed to satisfy the examiners. And yet the exam. was supposed to be so easy "that anyone with ordinary intelligence ought to pass," *vide* the Commissioners. Nevertheless, among the "also rans" were old Public School boys and men possessing first-class Army School certificates. The problem now is, what is to happen to the 14,000 unfortunates? Are they to be scrapped to swell the already overwhelming ranks of the unemployed? The solution is up to the powers that be—and, having put the question, we pause for a reply.

Erith in Bad Odour.

The Erith District Council, it seems, have a rooted objection to cleaning out cesspools—possibly it is too unsavoury a job for their sewermen to tackle. A housewife living close to one of these death traps says the smell is so awful that she has to keep her windows shut, and even then the stink comes through the floors. A District Visitor corroborates this, adding that the husband and four children have suffered and are still suffering from the effects. On a representation being made to the Ministry of Health, the Committee, evidently at its behest, took a little of the filth away, but not enough to mitigate let alone remove the nuisance. They are apparently waiting for an epidemic to break out.

A Bouncing Bookie.

Some postcards sent out by Mr. T. Leeson, a "bookie" living at Grasmere House, Handsworth, suggests that he is playing the game in a rather low-down way. One of his clients owes him £2, but cannot pay him "till things brighten up." He has explained to his creditor that he has no desire to avoid payment. Nevertheless, Leeson is constantly sending him such typewritten postcards as the following: "Sir, As you have ignored my repeated applications for settlement, this is to advise you that I shall wait three more days. Yours, T. Leeson. Do you intend to act honourably towards me? 7th application." It is doubtless very annoying to a bookmaker when a client is unable to settle bets promptly, but not many would lend themselves to such objectionable means of redress.

Warning from India.

A letter reaches us from Calcutta, signed by four engineers who were induced to go out there by what they allege to be misrepresentations on the part of agents in this country. By these gentry the cost of living is usually represented as cheap, whereas we are informed it is quite the reverse. Skilled workers are advised on no account to sign agreements under 600 rupees a month unless quarters are provided.

Port of London Authority.

A cripple, one H. Saxby, has for the past ten years owned and occupied a coffee stall located just outside Tilbury Dock gates, and, after working up a trade and being put to a lot of expense, was given notice by the Port of London Authority to clear out, lock, stock and barrel, as the site was required for the erection of a bridge. The worst aspect of the case is that Saxby cannot find another job. Surely this is a case in which the exercise of a little generosity would be fit and proper.

A Row for a Rescue.

The circumstances of a plucky and difficult rescue of two drowning men at Peel have, we hope, attracted the attention of the Secretary of the Royal Humane Society. The men were out in a yawl off Dalby Lhag, got into difficulties in a stiff breeze, and were soon in the water with nothing except an oar each to keep them from going under. Mr. T. Quirk and Mr. J. Kissack, in another yawl, seeing what had happened, lowered sail and rowed to the rescue at great risk of their own lives. They grasped the men, but the little cockle shell would not hold them, and so they towed the shipwrecked mariners in safety to the shore. Such bravery should not go unrewarded.

"Highly Improper."

The Monmouthshire Eastern Valleys Free Church Council Vigilance and Temperance Committee has received a well-merited rebuke from the Chairman of the Monmouthshire Compensation Authority. The egregious body mentioned had the audacity to write a letter to the Authority, urging them to greater activity with regard to the extinction of so-called redundant licences in the Gwent Valley. "We sit here as a judicial body," said the Chairman, "and we are not going to be influenced by a letter of this kind, which I regard as a highly improper attempt to interfere with the decision of the Court." The M.E.V.F.C.C.V.T.C. can put that in their pipes—if they have stomach enough—and smoke it.

The Incredible.

The demand notes for six months' rates at Stoke Newington have now been issued. The L.C.C. and other bodies which the Borough Council so commonly blame for high rates have reduced their requisitions by 7½d. in the £. This notwithstanding, the Council have increased their rate by 10½d., leaving a net increase of 3d. in the £. In explanation, the Council request the ratepayers to believe that the cost of upkeep in public libraries is thrice as much in summer as in winter; that streets, *sans* lighting, cost twice as much in summer as in winter; and that "other expenses" are 50 per cent. more in the summer than in the winter. One of our readers thinks that ratepayers who believe this taradiddle will believe anything.

Maternity Benefits.

A Manchester woman, having given birth to a child, at once claimed the maternity benefit. After a lapse of six weeks, she was notified that as her contribution card was missing there was nothing doing. The card was forwarded to the claimant's Approved Society in London, who wrote pointing out that they were precluded from making payment in view of the fact that the card was not surrendered until after the claim had been made! There seems nothing for it but for our correspondent to hope for better luck next time.

Is He a Slacker?

Mr. Sidney White, of Malvern, while employed by the Ministry of Munitions in 1916, ruptured his right biceps. In July, 1919, Judge Ingham, at Worcester County Court, awarded him 12s. 6d. a week compensation. White protested to the Ministry that he could now earn only 12s. 11d. a week. This they disputed before the same Judge a few days ago; and on the ground that White's present incapacity did not materially lessen his earning power, his Honour has reduced the award to 5s. a week. It certainly seems a hard case.

When Malmesbury Woke Up.

Two young ship's stewards named Roper and Riddick, smitten with a desire to "wake up" Malmesbury, thought the most effectual way of doing this would be to run off with a motor car and a couple of motor cycles. When charged with stealing, they pleaded that it was all done by way of a joke to wake up the town. The Judge, Lord Coleridge, accepted the explanation and the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty." For our part, we consider that to run a borrowed car from Malmesbury to Woolwich was—as in the case of the man who ran off with a pair of trousers—carrying a joke too far.

Wangling at Wetherby.

Wetherby Guardians wanted a Relieving Officer. Instead of advertising the vacancy and appointing to it a competent ex-soldier out of a job, Canon Lascelles, the Chairman, proposed, and Mr. J. Thompson, the Vice-Chairman, seconded, and the rest of the bunch agreed, that Mr. Smith should act as Clerk to the Guardians at £140 a year, as Clerk to the Assessment Committee at £25, as Clerk to the Council at £105, as Registrar of Marriages at £30, and have a war bonus of £25; also that Mr. Mellor is to be Relieving Officer at £200 a year, Deputy Clerk to the Council at £45 a year, receive commissions as Collector of £52 a year, be Secretary to the Boarding-out Committee at £3 a year, and take a war bonus of £25. How any body of public representatives can lend themselves to such an arrangement without blushing like boiled lobsters is a puzzle.

The "Bullet—in."

The happy winner of the First Prize of £500 in our "Bullets" Competition No. 412 is Mr. Charles Wood, of Portobello, Edinburgh. At the age of 63, he has been requited for his persistent efforts—having competed from the first—by carrying off the premier award. Incidentally, Mr. Wood's address was incorrectly announced in our last issue. He is the Manager of the "Figure 8 Railway," Portobello—an ingenious structure of the scenic or "joy-ride" variety—and not an employee of the North British Railway, as the peculiarity of his address led us to suppose.

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THEIR HANDS IN YOUR POCKETS.

WASTE STILL RAMPANT AND NO IMPROVEMENT IN SIGHT.

By W. CHARLES PILLEY—*Assistant Editor.*

IT has always been my contention that the spreading canker of "Waste" in Government administration would yield only to drastic surgical methods, and, frankly, I am not impressed with the belated announcement of greater vigilance on the part of the Treasury upon which a section of the Press are building extravagant hopes. The evil is too deep-rooted and far reaching in its scope to be amenable to such simple treatment. If two years ago the Government had been wise enough to take the advice offered them by friends and critics alike, and limit the expenditure of the Departments by means of a severe rationing system, there might have been some hope of stemming the tide of prodigality that has engulfed British industry; but, personally, I doubt very much whether a mere Treasury order, directing an all-round reduction of 20 per cent. in expenditure, is likely to check the spendthrift tendencies which threaten the taxpayer with ruin.

A SCANDALOUS REPORT.

Almost before the ink is dry upon the Treasury Minute, we have the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General dealing with the accounts of the Ministry of Munitions for the year ended March, 1920. It is shown that throughout this period the officials in control have been permitted to outrage every ordinary principle of business and squander public money in all directions. We find, for instance, that in this single year a sum of £6,000 was debited to the taxpayer as an irrecoverable loss due to theft and fraud—this sum being a mere fraction of the vast total of £687,000 which, for various causes, ranging from deliberate crime to blundering carelessness, had to be written off as a bad debt to the nation. It is clear that as long as this sort of thing continues there will be no safeguard for the taxpayer, and a cartload of "White Papers" will make no difference. It is a case not for poultices or bandages, but for the surgeon's knife. For these scandals are not confined to a single Department. Day by day, evidence accumulates showing not simply that the Treasury has lost all control over the spending Departments, but that these Departments themselves are so honeycombed with intrigue and tainted with the worst vices of bureaucracy that the public interest is imperilled at every turn.

COSTLY AND USELESS.

Among spend-thrift Departments the War Office is still a principal offender. To a great extent the facts are hidden from the general public, and only occasionally, through some official indiscretion, is the truth permitted to leak out. For example, I doubt if one in twenty of my readers is familiar with the Army orgarisation known as the Corps of Military Accountants, a body which, from its original formation in 1919, has extended itself throughout the country at a cost which if fully realised would appal the public mind. The original intention was, apparently, that members of this Corps, having some training in figures, should act as expert accountants to the various Army depots, checking the books and co-ordinating the system of accounts. If these were the original duties, they have long since disappeared. In these happy days, members of the C.M.A.—to give the Corps its short title—are engaged, for the most part, in the cursory inspection of Army depots, enquiring verbally into current expenditure and recording the information received in ledgers, whose accumulated bulk might well serve as a monument of official ineptitude for the delectation of posterity. Such methods might be all very well but for the enormous cost involved, not a fraction of which is justified. The personnel of the Corps is amazing. In the Army List, 1921, under the heading of the Corps of Military Accountants, I find the names of one Colonel, three Lieut.-Colonels, eleven Majors, and 189 Captains, the approximate cost to the nation of this bevy of officers, not a tithe of whom can be fully employed, being officially estimated at £135,000 per annum. This astounding sum is for the commissioned ranks alone. It is difficult to arrive at exact figures in regard to the rank and file, but I find upon enquiry that at Chatham the staff of the C.M.A. consists, apart from the officer in charge, of a Sergeant-Major, one Sergeant, four Corporals, one Lance-Corporal and two privates, whose combined cost to the taxpayer works out at something approaching £2,000 per annum. Multiply this by the number of depots in the country and we arrive at the total annual cost of the Corps of Military Accountants, officers and men, which works out in the neighbourhood of £540,000.

CUT OUT THE CANKER.

This staggering figure is for personnel alone, and takes no account of such items as office furniture, typewriters, ledgers, stationery and travelling expenses, which in the aggregate must considerably increase the outlay. It is to be added that the methods of the Corps have incurred a large amount of criticism, and it is doubtful whether, for all its theoretical skill, it has saved a penny for a shilling of its cost. If a new system of bookkeeping was necessary, it might surely have been devised by the existing accountancy staff of the Army without the aid of 204 additional officers, to say nothing of the vast total of N.C.O.s and men. Such reckless waste of public money is on the same footing as the record of the Ministry of Munitions and the profligacy of the Disposals Board, which at Lincoln has been selling aeroplane bodies with copper fittings and pipes at three shillings apiece. With such facts in view it is difficult to regard the outlook hopefully. The remedy lies with Parliament and, indirectly, with the electors, who should lose no opportunity of returning strong Independent members, pledged to resist waste in all its forms. There ought not, for instance, to be a shadow of doubt about the election of Admiral Sueter for East Herts.

THE SUBSTITUTION BOARD AGAIN.

GALLANT R.N.V.R. OFFICER'S SCURVY TREATMENT.

An ex-officer in the R.N.V.R., with excellent war record, after many days of fruitless search for employment appealed to the Substitution Board for a post on its list at a salary of £400 per annum. As the berth called for a man with a knowledge of French and German and sundry other qualifications which the applicant fully possessed, he thought he had at least a sporting chance. But no. Instead of listening to his story sympathetically, or even with respect, the two members of the Board who interviewed him—"pompous jackanapes" he calls them—put him through a veritable "third degree" on everything except his fitness for the post, and finally turned him down because he was not a University man. When the candidate demurred at this, he was told that a University man, accustomed to translating from Greek and Latin, could write better English! On the candidate remarking that the stipulation penalised the man whose parents had not been able to give him that training, he was met with the impertinent rejoinder that he would have done better had he endeavoured to obtain a scholarship when he was a lad instead of going to sea. In the face of such experiences as this—which, we have cause to believe, are by no means unusual—it is hardly surprising that there is an uneasy feeling abroad that gross trickery is at work in the Substitution Board to avoid replacing pin-money women by ex-Service men, even to the extent of demanding impossible qualifications.

PENSIONER'S PREDICAMENT.

A CASE FOR THE CHARITABLY DISPOSED.

"I will give you six weeks to go out, and unless some charitably disposed person comes forward, I'm afraid I can't help you any further." Thus His Honour Judge Granger (not unkindly) to the wife of Alfred William Smith, a Catford pensioner, against whom an Order for the possession of the house he occupied was applied for at Greenwich County Court. The case is a sad one, though unhappily not rare. Illness of the husband, and consequent inability to work in order to supplement his none too lavish pension which had been cut down to half, depleted the resources of the family—there are eight children—and the rent fell in arrear. There is no reflection on the landlord; he acted handsomely in the matter, declining to press for the amount owing, £25. He even went so far as to say he would make Smith a present of it, and was quite willing to allow him another month. The Judge, as stated, extended the period of grace to six weeks, and if something does not happen in the interim these poor people will be homeless. In a pathetic letter to us Smith says: "I have searched everywhere for a place and cannot find one." The worry does not tend to improve the poor fellow's health—the doctors do not give much hope of his ultimate recovery. If ever there was a case for the charitably disposed with means, this is one. Who will step forward in the name of Christian charity and help Alfred William Smith, his wife and eight children, over the stile?

A FISHY PROPOSITION.

SHARP PRACTICE BY A BILLINGSGATE FIRM.

On the 20th May, 1920, the Hon. Sec. Cheadle Branch "Comrades of the Great War" received an intimation that the Fish Food Depot, Billingsgate, Hull, "having been recommended to you by the Secretary of your great organisation," were forwarding a 70 lb. box of "Lovely Quality Fish, cleaned and ready for cooking, for distribution among the members of your club." If the contents did not realise the stated value, 30s., then whatever was realised would be accepted. A circular enclosed boldly instructed "if it does not give your staff satisfaction, either give it away or sell it—to the best advantage—sooner than waste it." The Secretary, finding the club was out of the delivery area, secured a truck and personally fetched it. It was, however, late on Saturday afternoon, the "Comrades" had made their weekly purchases; the fish was of great size, and the only way to dispose of it was to accept a local salesman's terms of half what he obtained for it, viz., 19s. 10d. Deducting truck and postage, the sum of 9s. was forwarded to the Fish Food Depot, which had sent on an invoice for 30s. The document was returned with an explanation, and an intimation that further consignments were not wanted. On May 6th, 1921, the Secretary was favoured with a demand for 21s., the balance of the invoice, together with a letter threatening legal action! This crowd of bluffers should surely need no ice for their goods, their cheek being cool enough to freeze the Gulf Stream.

DEAD—AND DAMNED.

PUERILITIES OF THE PROFITEERING ACTS.

The Profiteering Acts, 1919-20, have gone down to the grave "unwept, unhonoured and unsung." No doubt the Newport (Isle of Wight) Committee under it is a fair sample. Since its formation in September, 1919, until its demise last month, it met six times only, investigated nine complaints—and dismissed them all. An amusing sequel to the farce occurred when Alderman Millgate presided at the final meeting at the Town Hall, and it was unanimously decided to vote the Town Clerk ten guineas in respect of his services as Clerk to the Committee. We do not suggest that this official was not entitled to some recompense for his labours; the pity is that they apparently were futile, and that the whole expense involved a heavy sum in the aggregate, is another charge upon the already sufficiently depleted purses of the taxpayers.

COMPS. IN THE DOLEFUL DUMPS.

WORRIED, WORKLESS, AND STILL WAITING.

There are some 150 out-of-work printers who, as members of the Salford Typographical Association, are drawing provident benefit of £1 a week for nine weeks in each quarter. They are also entitled to the Dole—which is paid, or supposed to be paid, at Caxton Hall, Salford, every Friday morning. As the Association is registered at the Crescent Labour Exchange—about a mile from its headquarters—the dole-seekers (for up to date most of them are seekers, not finders) have to tramp thither once a week to have their identification cards stamped, in addition to which they have to sign the State book at Caxton Hall every morning. Thus most of their time is taken up in walking and signing, but there is no tangible vision of the Dole. One of these unfortunates, in a letter to us, states that he and many others have been waiting six weeks—and some even two months. They have interviewed the officials until they are fed-up, and all the consolation they can get is the advice to wait and see. What a game!

THE LURE OF LINO.

INSIDIOUS TRAP FOR THOUGHTLESS TENANTS.

Mr. F. Briant, an ex-soldier of Landport, Portsmouth, asks us to "disabuse the public of the false impression that they can't be thrown from their homes into the street." He gave up a house in 1915, and took rooms. Eventually he reported his landlord for unmercifully thrashing a dog; the landlord responded by raising his rent, whilst his wife and the landlady had sundry rows about cleaning. The County Court Registrar in subsequent proceedings decided that lino in the passage and on the stairs constituted furnished apartments; the Judge afterwards made an Order for him to get out in two months. He was, however, unable to vacate in the time, on account of the illness of his wife; and finally the Bailiff, "without any warning," put his wife and boy into the street. What strikes us as most peculiar about the case, as Briant puts it, is the extraordinary decision of the Registrar that unfurnished rooms become furnished rooms within the meaning of the Act if the passage and stairs of the house in which they are rented are covered with lino. In the first place tenants of rooms do not live in the passage or on the stairs; and, in the second place, the use of the passage and stairs is shared by the householder letting the rooms. Though it did not make any difference in the end to Briant, it is something to know that the Judge did not agree with the Registrar's strange decision, and turned it down as quickly as the landlord's solicitor put it before him.

MUSIC WHILE YOU WAIT.

BATTLEDORE AND SHUTTLECOCK AT BRIXTON.

Professor F. E. Cliffe, of 18, Wyke Gardens, Brixton, S.W., is a gentleman in the musical line—the proprietor of the "Cliffe System of Piano Playing by Ear in Two Lessons." Seeing his advertisement, a reader sent 10s., the "Professor's" fee for the course, and in return received a piece of cardboard (termed a chart) showing a few keys of the piano, five of which were marked to imply that by pressing the same complete harmony could be produced. The "Professor" guaranteed to supply the goods on the money-back-if-you-aren't-satisfied system—"please remember," wrote he, "*you take no risk*; should my system fail to teach you in the manner represented (how to play in one day), I undertake to refund the money to you immediately." As our reader was not exactly persuaded that his investment was likely to lead to his becoming a second Mozart or anything approaching it, he promptly returned the chart, but, like the cat of immortal memory, the chart came back. Thrice in all did this happen—it came back each time, accompanied by the ingenuous advice to give it a good trial and the aspirant for musical honours would be surprised at the result. Not so the 10s., however—notwithstanding that on returning the chart for the second time our informant offered to pay Cliffe a personal visit. This in nowise nonplussed the "Professor," who wrote welcoming the suggestion, and returning the cardboard for the third time. Heartily sick of seeing the thing, our reader declined to have anything more to do with the Professor and is now anxiously waiting for him to carry out his money-back undertaking. Somehow we fancy he will have to go on waiting.

WHO IS TO BLAME?

GRAVE TUBERCULOSIS SCANDAL AT TOTTENHAM.

That dread disease, tuberculosis, has long been known to be of a dangerously infectious nature. The deadly germs which have wrought such havoc amongst the population of this country—young and old—have an evil tendency to entrench themselves in houses where tuberculous cases have occurred, and to fasten themselves upon fresh victims within the infected area. Aware of this, the authorities wisely framed Tuberculosis Regulations, which were designed to protect the healthy from the ravages of germs spread by the diseased. But the wisest regulations are worse than useless if they are not carried out with promptitude and thoroughness. We are moved to make these observations by a sad case that recently occurred in Tottenham. A resident in that borough had the misfortune to have two deaths from tuberculosis occur in his house. The authorities were, of course, notified, and a request was made that the house should be duly disinfected and restored. It is almost incredible that nearly six months should have been allowed to elapse before any notice was taken of the request. Meantime, the wife of the householder contracted the disease, and—apart from the tragedy of the thing—in all likelihood will have to be sent away and treated at the expense of the public. The Regulations we have referred to were issued last April. Prior to that, there may have been a certain amount of excuse for slackness in such matters. But the Regulations being in force, we are entitled to ask why greater promptitude was not exercised in the fumigation and cleansing of the dwelling in question. The householder, being a poor man, must of necessity rely upon the public funds for the curative treatment of his wife—which, in these times of general poverty, is a serious matter—whereas the early observance of the Regulations would in all probability have prevented the whole unhappy circumstance.

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A PLOT TO KILL THE KING!

AMAZING EVIDENCE OF REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

A FEW weeks ago we felt it our duty to lay before the public certain startling information which had reached us in regard to the seditious activities of the Communist Party of Great Britain—an offshoot of the Russian Bolshevik movement, directly affiliated with the "Red" International at Moscow. Since then we have kept very closely in touch with the progress of Communist activity, and in the course of investigation have lighted upon an episode which, if the authorities had had their way, would have been veiled in secrecy. In our view this is a mistaken policy. The loyal citizens of this country are not children, and, as was abundantly proved in the struggle with Germany, they are never more resolute than when confronted with a danger that can be seen and realised. Moreover, they are animated by such a sense of devotion to the Reigning House that any affront to the occupants of the Throne is likely to intensify those sentiments of patriotism upon which, in the last resort, the forces of law and order must rely. Consequently, we have no hesitation in making public the whole circumstances of an occurrence which, while it may happily be relegated to the category of averted catastrophies, is yet full of ominous warning for the future. Naturally, we have been at pains to verify the facts in every detail, and, sensational as our disclosures are, we challenge official denial of our statements.

THE KING IN PERIL.

At the time of the royal opening of Parliament on February 15th last, it was a matter of general comment that the police appeared to be taking excessive precautions against the possibility of mishap on the line of route. An extraordinary force had been mobilised for the occasion, large additional bodies of troops drafted to London, and a general disposition shown to keep the crowd at a distance from the Royal procession. There were reasons. We say, with full knowledge of the facts, that at that date the police had information, resting upon unimpeachable authority, that an attempt was to be made upon the King's life. They knew the names of the principal conspirators, and only a day or so before had raided certain premises at Islington—where a number of bombs were discovered, and, as we have reason to believe, certain arrests made. There followed hurried consultations at Scotland Yard and prompt communication with Downing Street, as a result of which orders went out summoning extra police to the Metropolis and calling in strong military reinforcements. The need for special vigilance at every point of the proceedings, and especially in the neighbourhood of Westminster, was firmly impressed upon the uniformed forces. It is safe to say that the heads of the Criminal Investigation Department, accustomed as they are to heavy responsibility, have spent no more anxious day for years past than that which culminated in the King's safe return to Buckingham Palace. The finding of a cargo of live bombs on premises known throughout North East London as a centre of Socialist activity was not to be ignored; and when this dramatic discovery coincided with other clues of a no less startling nature, it was evident to the intelligence of the police that they were on the track of a conspiracy that had for its objects the twin felonies of treason and murder. The warning was in the nick of time.

HATCHING THE PLOT.

We recount the story in detail. The conspirators came together through their association with the London District Council of Unemployed, a body to which most of the "unemployed" groups of the Metropolis are affiliated, and one long noted for its eager revolutionary zeal. There is reason to believe that some of the participants in the larger plot had been concerned in an attempt to set fire to the Islington Town Hall—many such attempts at arson within the last few months having been due, not as is commonly supposed, to the activities of Sinn Feiners, but to those of our own revolutionary fanatics. The anarchist cabal who resolved in a moment of madness to attempt the life of the Sovereign were a motley throng, including at least one woman and several "comrades" of Russian and Italian origin. It is even suggested that the woman was the ringleader, and it was the custom of the group to meet under her presidency at the premises of an international Socialist club at Islington. Several of the members, like many of the leaders of the Communist Party, were attached to the notorious Industrial Workers of the World. Five days before the State opening of Parliament there was a secret meeting at the same Islington club, at which the mad and murderous enterprise in contemplation was fully discussed and precise arrangements made for its execution. With deadly seriousness, and all unconscious of the fact that they were being watched, the conspirators worked out the details of their scheme. The bombs—of the Mills hand-grenade variety—were produced for inspection, and lots cast for the role of assassin, which was to be shared between two of the leading rebels. By a happy intervention of Fate, the luck of the ballot assigned this task to a conspirator whose wavering sympathies shrank from the crime of murder—and he, after some deliberation, placed himself in communication with the police. A day later, the conspirators forgathered again at the same address to confirm each other's courage and assure themselves that all was in train for the tragic *denouement* planned for the following Tuesday; while before the appointed day there was another meeting having the same sinister object. By this time, the miscreants' plans had been worked out in the fullest detail—the bombs, it appears, were actually distributed. The scene of the outrage was to be near the Horse Guards' Parade.

THE ASSASSINS FOILED.

In the meantime, however, Scotland Yard had been apprised of what was going forward, and the unexpected intervention of the police completely spoiled the conspirators' plans. What actually happened is something of a mystery. On the facts before us, we are inclined to think that about this time the premises of the before-mentioned Socialist club at Islington were raided by plain-clothes officers, and a good deal of incriminating evidence was discovered. More than one arrest was made in connection with the projected attack upon the Royal procession, and we would ask the Home Secretary whether it is not a fact that a few days after the State opening of Parliament several Communist agitators of foreign extraction, who were known to have frequented these premises, were not deported. The most plausible inference is that the authorities, after consultation with the Home Office, decided to hush the whole matter up rather than direct public attention by means of criminal proceedings to the fatal ease with which this dastardly Bolshevist plot had been hatched in the very heart of London. It is doubtful if the extent of this peril is even yet sufficiently recognised. Moreover, the real headquarters of the revolutionary movement are situated, not in London, but in leading provincial centres—such as Glasgow, Cardiff, and certain towns in the Midlands, where the police are less alert to the signs and symptoms of sedition. It is not often, perhaps, that these fanatics contemplate action so criminal as was involved in the plot against the King's life, but it is certain that their plans are laid on an ambitious scale, knowledge of which by the authorities is the real reason underlying the refusal of the Government to abrogate paragraph 19 of the Emergency Powers Act, under which the recent "round up" of Communist agitators has taken place. It is not often we find ourselves in agreement with the Home Secretary, but we trust he will adhere firmly to his attitude upon this important matter.

THE REBEL FUNDS.

The main inference to be drawn from the foregoing facts is that there are men and women in the revolutionary movement in Great Britain who will stick at nothing in their effort to overthrow the Constitution of this realm and establish on its ruins a Soviet Republic. The unfortunate fact is that they are plentifully supplied with funds, drawn principally from Russia and the United States, the sums expended in propaganda during the last few months running into hundreds of thousands of pounds. Another sinister aspect of the situation is the extent to which the revolutionary elements have succeeded in permeating the more stable Labour movements—with which, as our readers are aware, we have in the past had a large measure of sympathy. One thing, however, we cannot tolerate—and that is that revolutionary fanatics from abroad should be permitted to worm their way into the councils of Labour in this country, and to abuse the hospitality of these shores by planning murder and regicide in the heart of London. We mean to pursue our investigations, and from time to time make public such facts as call for the notice of patriotic citizens. Meanwhile, the information we possess is entirely at the disposal of the authorities, who must not make the mistake of assuming that, because in the past the country has escaped the more extreme manifestations of social discontent, it is necessarily immune from the "Red Peril" which, in one form or another, menaces nearly every civilised nation.

God Save the King!

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

(This space is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.)

To Viscount Fitz Alan, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, The Castle, Dublin.

DEAR LORD LIEUTENANT,—I have thehonour to call your attention to the grave hardship caused to two dependent women in York by what to them, as to me, is an unaccountable delay in payment of an award of £1,500, with costs and expenses, given to them as the result of the death of their brother, an R.I.C. Auxiliary, killed in Ambush at Kilmichel, County Cork, on 28th November last. Not only was he murdered in this way, but £120 was stolen from his body. The compensation award was made to these women at Macroom Sessions as far back as January. In reply to repeated applications since then for the money, all the sisters—the Misses Pearson—are able to get out of Dublin Castle are formal printed acknowledgments on behalf of your Lordship stating that "the matter will receive attention." Peradventure it will; up to now, it has not. One of the sisters is under treatment for tuberculosis and needs money for special diet. Contributions, my Lord, will therefore be thankfully received; the more quickly, the greater thanks. JOHN BULL.

To Lord Byng of Vimy.

DEAR LORD BYNG,—Permit me to congratulate you on your appointment to the Governor-Generalship and Command-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada, and to express the hope that your period of office will be marked by peace, progress and prosperity. Allow me at the same time to suggest that, before you leave England to take up your new and responsible duties, you have the Canteen Fund muddle completely cleared up. The unravelling of this tangle is long overdue and demands your immediate attention. JOHN BULL.

To Colonel Featherstonehaugh, Chairman of Magistrates, Malvern.

HOLY WARRIOR,—The Malvern Hospital is a godsend to the local sick and injured. It is badly in need of funds, and is engaged in a heart-breaking task of collecting 20,000 shillings. The Managing Director of the Assembly Rooms offered to help by a cinema show on Sunday. No expenses would be charged, and all services given free. You and the other moss-grown relics on the Bench refused the application, as it "opened a door which is very hard to close"! If all had their deserts, you would be in an institution whose door is not easy to open—from the inside. JOHN BULL.

To Arthur Caunt, Motor Driver, Leicester.

FALSE LOVER,—You appear to have played a very low-down game with poor Sarah Bishop, who was found dead, with her head inside a gas-stove. Before she committed suicide she declared that she did not know you were a married man until you had been keeping company with her for some time. You denied this at the inquest, but admitted that you had accepted money from the girl. There is very little doubt in my mind that you deceived her and laid yourself out to win her affection, which, in the circumstances, was the act of a cad. Accept my profound contempt. JOHN BULL.

To Councillor J. B. Stone, Chairman, Board of Guardians, Canterbury.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN,—It is a great pleasure to me to notice your motion at the recent Conference of the Poor Law Unions' Association to omit from the Local Authorities Payment of Expenses Bill the proposal to pay "personal expenses for time lost." As you say, people who voluntarily offer their services to the community ought to be prepared to make *some* sort of sacrifice. It is perhaps a question whether either the character of the House of Commons or its service to the nation has been improved by the payment of members; I am quite certain the piling up of "personal expenses for time lost" would not increase the efficiency of Boards of Guardians, and would not improbably lead to a great deal of abuse. JOHN BULL.

To the Sheriff, Dumfries, Scotland.

MY DEAR SHERIFF,—Permit me to make a name for you; you deserve it. I hail the opportunity because I have become so used to seeing brutes who ill-treat animals let off with ludicrous fines, that when I find a Magistrate letting a brute know what o'clock it is I naturally wish him to have a halo of his own. The facts before you were that George Dunsmore, byreman, Moss-side Farm, Dunsmore, tied the head of a cow so tightly to its stall that it could not move; that he afterwards "kicked it savagely about the head and udder"; and then, to round-off his ferocity, beat the beast with a "heavy piece of flooring board out of which nails were sticking." All this done, be it said, because the cow had kicked over the milking pail. Most Magistrates would have fined this inhuman biped half-a-crown and costs, or thereabouts; you ent him to gaol for three months with hard abour. He will be more careful where he puts his boots when he comes out, I'll warrant you. JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. Philip Moore, Paris.

DEAR PHILIP,—Your sudden disappearance from your curacy at Merton a few weeks ago created quite a sensation. Now you have been found in Paris in mufti and cultivating a moustache! Censorious people may consider your actions and conduct unbecoming in a cleric; however, I cannot but sympathise with you in your desire to escape from the monotony of parish work and contact with an "unsympathetic and ungrateful flock." Besides, it's rather jolly in Paris, isn't it? If we should meet at Montmartre, we'll split a bottle. JOHN BULL.

To T. W. Marsters, Esq., War Pensions Committee, Nottingham.

DEAR SIR,—I am so often exposing the practice of regional headquarters in whittling down the pensions of disabled ex-Service men by unconscionable jiggery-pokery that I can heartily congratulate you on protesting against it. Headquarters are now refusing treatment allowances where a certificate has been given by a Medical Referee that the disability from which a pensioner is suffering is a consequence of the pensionable disability. It is obvious that if a pensioner had not received one disability he would not have the other. It is the bounden duty of Committees to see that these men have every penny of pension to which justice and gratitude entitle them. JOHN BULL.

To His Worship the Mayor, Taunton, Somerset.

YOUR WORSHIP,—As far as I gather, there is practically a consensus of opinion in Taunton that the Borough Corporation have made a bloomer and are pursuing a dog-in-the-manger policy by shutting down so useful a public service as the local Tramway Company. The shareholders have never had anything out of their investment for 20 years, except one dividend of 1 per cent.; the new demands on the Company by the Corporation for a double price per unit of electricity, plus nearly double minimum payment, amounting to £1,000 a year, is in the circumstances exorbitant; and the refusal of the Corporation to purchase the property they have shut down looks as if they were trying to ruin the Company first and get the property for next-to-nothing afterwards. In the meantime Taunton people, workmen particularly, are being seriously inconvenienced by the stoppage. Cannot you do something, Mr. Mayor, to bring the Corporation to a more reasonable frame of mind? JOHN BULL.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

The "Artful Dodger" Chamberlain
(Who somehow something lacks)
Hints how paid Members of the House
May dodge the Income Tax!

If skirts are to be forced upon
Fair bathers in the sea,
Far fewer males upon the shore
In future we shall see.

The New Postmaster-General,
Shocked by the public's grosse,
Already casts a longing glance
Towards the Upper House.

The poor tax-payer's painful plight
Much room for pity holds—
Each morning finds him tighter squeezed
Within the python's folds.

GERMANY STILL

The Farce of the Leipzig Trials—Government's Dishon

By THE E

NO patriotic British citizen can have read the accounts of the Leipzig trials without a sense of deep humiliation. The whole thing is a blatant mockery of the high aims for which our heroes bled and died, and a sickly travesty of those exalted professions of justice that were on our lips during the closing stages of the war and at the date of the Armistice. At that time it was commonly understood throughout the civilised world that, while no motives of vengeance animated the victors, the whole policy of the Allies would be directed to securing the fullest reparation for the iniquities of the Hun, and the solemn trial and punishment of the responsible authors, that had left an indelible stain upon the page of history. The pledges of our own Government were explicit. At the General Election the punishment of the war criminals, including the ex-Kaiser and his principal confederates, was a main plank in the programme of the Coalition, and although Mr. Lloyd George may deny that he ever promised in set terms to "hang the Kaiser," he cannot dispute the fact that on a hundred platforms Ministers of the Crown assured their confiding audiences that the whole resources of civilisation should be exhausted in the effort to bring to justice the men actually responsible for the lawless atrocities on sea and land that had added page after page of needless horror to the inevitable misery of war. Personally, I was inclined, as my readers are aware, to accept these assurances with the proverbial grain of salt, knowing too well the weakness of the politicians, and the ease with which they might be deflected from the path of justice. I profoundly mistrusted the methods of diplomacy, and somehow or other felt in my bones that we should see no more than a halt and lame fulfilment of these high-sounding promises. Yet I confess I was not prepared for the tragic farce the world has been doomed to witness. It is monstrous, shameful, incredible. The Leipzig trials are a spectacle to excite the wrath of all who bore their share of the war's sacrifices—to earn the contempt of posterity, to make the angels weep.

A Sickly Farce.

The central fact to be borne in mind is that the men who are being tried at Leipzig are not the responsible authors of Germany's criminal war policy, but its insignificant instruments who, while they deserve all the punishment that they are getting and more, are entitled in every case to plead the "superior orders" of Prussian militarism as an excuse of their barbarous conduct. To argue, as the Attorney-General does, that these are "test cases" and that the final decision of the Allied Governments must abide their results, is sheer trifling with the situation. The list of Hun criminals, whose extradition was demanded by the Allies as an integral part of the terms of peace, is understood to contain between 800 and 900 names, including those of Admiral von Tirpitz, General Ludendorff and other German military and naval officers of equal eminence who were alleged to have sanctioned some of the worst barbarities of the War. In these circumstances, to pick out six or seven obscure non-commissioned officers who dared not to have disobeyed their orders, even if they had wished to, and to describe these as test cases is simply to play with words and insult the intelligence of the British people. That the men charged at Leipzig and sentenced to trifling terms of imprisonment had an innate brutality of their own, admirably fitting them to be used as the tools of the arch villains behind the scenes, and demanding the sternest correction, I am ready to admit, but we must never lose sight of the fact that while this tomfoolery is going on the real criminals who, if there were any justice left in the world, would long ago have been hanged as high as Haman, are going scot free. In one or two cases, as we know, they have managed to slip through the net of the Allied military control and to get clean away, but this applies only to a few lesser personages, and I say deliberately, speaking with some knowledge, that, as far as the principal culprits are concerned, there ought to be no difficulty whatever in laying hands upon them and bringing them promptly to trial. It is my contention—which I shall lose no opportunity of pressing upon the Law Officers of the Crown—that, if test cases were to be brought, the selected criminals should have been men of the highest ranks who could be held morally, as well as legally, responsible for the crimes carried out under their direction. From the catalogue of war horrors published at the time, the details of which are completely within the knowledge of the Allies, it would have been easy to frame a list of test cases which would have served to put German sincerity in this matter to the proof and to vindicate the principles of justice. For greater clearness I append a list of real war criminals with a brief note of their notorious misdoings. The truth of these allegations is common ground and is not seriously contested by any Allied authority. Here they are:

THE EX-DUKE OF WURTEMBURG.—This royal personage is alleged to have been chiefly responsible for a cruel massacre of civilians at Namur in the early part of the war, and for the subsequent "blood bath" of Somme-Py, this village, according to credible witnesses, having been burnt to the ground and civilians of both sexes forced alive into the flames.

THE EX-CROWN PRINCE RUPPRECHT OF BAVARIA, alleged to have been personally responsible for the ill-treatment of women and prisoners of war. Clear evidence exists that he did, in fact, sanction murder and encourage his troops to perpetrate the worst outrages against women in the occupied zone.

ADMIRAL VON TIRPITZ, responsible for the main plan of the submarine campaign, including the sinking of unarmed ships and Red Cross vessels; alleged also to have deliberately extended the scope of Zeppelin operations to undefended towns in Great Britain and France.

ADMIRAL VON CAPELLE, more particularly associated with the horrors of submarine piracy and the sinking of hospital ships.

GENERAL VON KLUCK.—Proof exists that this typical exponent of Prussian militarism habitually used women and children as a screen in front of his advancing troops in the early part of the war. There are further well-founded allegations against him of

THE LITTLE BRUTE *(to the Big Brute)*:—"They've

L TRICKING US!

onoured Pledges—Bring the War Criminals Here!

EDITOR.

murdering hostages at Senlis and other occupied towns. He was mainly responsible for the wanton destruction of Louvain.

GENERAL LIMAN VON SANDERS, as German Commander-in-Chief, is known to have co-operated with the Turks in the massacre of the Armenians, amounting in effect to the entire extermination of a defenceless people.

GENERAL VON BULOW, in command of the German Second Army, whose troops perpetrated the worst atrocities in Belgium in 1914. Credible evidence exists that he connived at these excesses, and, to select a specific case, ordered the looting and burning of the town of Ardennes.

The list might be indefinitely extended, but it is already more than long enough to furnish the Attorney-General and his colleagues with a selection of test cases that would not make us a laughing-stock in the eyes of Europe. If it was desired to concentrate on the horrors connected with the conduct of the prison camps, then instead of a nondescript weakling who broke down and sobbed at a sentence of six months' imprisonment, two-thirds of which he had already spent awaiting trial, we might have had in the dock such men as General von Hanisch, the most brutal of all prison camp fiends, whose conduct was so atrocious that before the war was over he was actually removed from his command by the Huns themselves, together with General von Dassel, the Commandant of the terrible war camp at Wittenberg, where, in addition to other brutalities, British prisoners were left without medical assistance during a ghastly outbreak of typhus fever, which decimated the inmates and exposed the living for days together to infected and hideous contact with the dead. Why are these dastards not placed on trial? Are these not the test cases which should have engaged the attention of the Court of Leipzig if the proceedings had ever been intended to bear the semblance of justice? Where is General von Arnim who, according to the testimony of eye witnesses, had a French civilian shot in cold blood for no worse offence than shrugging his shoulders at a remark made by a German sergeant? I make no apology for returning to this subject, which has engaged my pen on several occasions since the Armistice. Unlike some writers and politicians, I have no reason to retract a word I have uttered in regard to these vital matters. Indeed, my prognostication of the course of events has received an almost uncanny fulfilment. On turning over the files I find that as long ago as February 28th, 1920, I wrote these words: "The name of the theatre is the German Supreme Court at Leipzig, and if the Huns are *quite* agreeable the show will soon begin. . . . Oh, yes; the Big Three don't mean to be played with. They are quite as serious as when they signed the Treaty of Versailles, with faces as solemn as though they meant to see it honoured. Frankly, I attach no importance to these proceedings, which in my opinion are mere eyewash intended to placate a critical public. The bed-rock fact that we have to face is that, through inconsistency and vacillation verging on downright incompetence, the Allied Ministers have let the Hun criminals slip through their fingers. What should have been a lofty and imposing Tableau of Justice has become a sickening farce." How's that for prophecy? If I leave the ex-Kaiser and Crown Prince out of my present reckoning it is not because I have in any way altered my view as to their criminal propensities, but because no sane person now believes that either of them will ever be made amenable to the sanctions of civilised jurisprudence. Not that their guilt is in question. If the case against the ex-Kaiser rested simply on the telegram he is known to have sent to the Austrian Emperor at a critical stage of the war, intended to nerve his weak-kneed vassal to further acts of "frightfulness," it would be more than complete. This evil communication ran: "Everything must be put to fire and sword; men, women, children and old men must be slaughtered, and not a tree or a house be left standing." The author of this vile outburst remains in safe asylum in Holland, while the miserable tools of the Prussian military system who, eagerly obeying the instructions of their degraded officers, inflicted upon British soldiers injuries the marks of which they will carry to their dying day, are let off with punishments that would befit the pettiest civil offence. I am, therefore, asking the Prime Minister whether the Government has received any Report from the Solicitor-General regarding the proceedings at Leipzig; and whether, in view of the inadequacy of the sentences so far passed, immediate steps will be taken to remove the remainder of the trials to London.

...t me, but when are they going to get you?"

Government's Broken Pledge.

Listen to Mr. Lloyd George at Newcastle in November, 1918. It will be remembered that there was a General Election in progress. Referring to the submarine warfare, and doubtless having in mind the responsibility of Admiral von Tirpitz, the right honourable gentleman declared, "It is rank piracy, and the pirates must receive the punishment of piracy." Not much room for misunderstanding there! And again later, referring to the burning of defenceless cities and the massacre of the civil populations, "This is a crime, burning cities, killing old men and children and devastating the land in defiance of the law. Surely a man who did that ought to be held responsible for it." If I am to be told that the Newcastle speeches were mere electioneering, there is an end of it; and my hatred and mistrust of the Party political system under which we are governed will be deeper than ever. But that does not dispose of the demand of the British people that the real War criminals, whose whereabouts are no secret from the Allied command, should even yet be brought to trial. The Leipzig trials, the Attorney-General tells us, were "test cases." If so, the test has miserably failed. The only course consistent with dignity and honour still open to the Supreme Council is to make a further selection from the list of War criminals—choosing not the humblest, but the most exalted offenders, and insisting upon their trial before an Allied tribunal owning some respect for those principles of justice which even the piled up horrors of war ought not to have effaced from the minds of men.

ANTICIPATED EPITAPH.

Thys Granit Masse
Keepes downe wyth difficultie
Ye inflated remaynes
Of
Ye Lorde Haldane,
Fyrst Viscounte of Cloan.
Hee fyrst saw ye lyght in ye month of July,
Anno Domini 1856,
Butte continued more or lesse in ye darke
Toe ye end of hys daies.
Hee acquyred a smatterynge of educatione at
Edinburgh Academy;
Improved upon itte atte
Edinburgh Universitie;
And putte ye lidde onne itte atte
Göttingen,
One of ye Hunne Universities.
Itte is believed thatte hee there dranke German
beere,
And therebye acquyred
Ye Teutonick tastes and sympathies
For ye whyche hee became notorious
In later yeares.
Anno Domini 1885
Hee was badlie bitten bye ye Partie bugge
And became Liberal Member of Parlymente for
Haddyngtonshyre—
A Scottyshe constituencie thatte atte ye tyme
Suffered from an impediment in its intelligence.
Inne ye House of Commons
Hee developed a gifte of ye gabbe
Of suche horse-power
Thatte hee myghte welle have beene chrystened
Ye non-stoppe talker.
Thys vyce
Probablie hadde itts origine
Inne hys experience atte ye Barre
(Legal—notte convivyal),
For hee was made a Barrister
Anno Domini 1879,
And
Anno Domini 1890;
Inne ye yeares before ye Greate Warre
Hee ridiculed themme thatte coulde foresee
Danger from Germanie.
Hee was, inne fact,
Germany's lickspittle.
Hee called ye Faderlande hys Spiritual Home.
Hee didde hys beste toe lulle ye Englysh
Intoe a false sense of securitie.
Whenne Minister for Warre,
Anno Domini 1905-12,
Hee discharged workmenne from Woolwich,
And lette themme goe toe Krupp's for a jobbe,
And whenne ye Warre broke oute
Hee fyrst admytted thatte hee was fryghtened
Bye whatte hee hadde seen
In Germanie,
And inne almoste ye same breathe
Declared thatte Englande was prepared for ye
stryfe
Whereas Germanie wasn't!
Inne ye whyche hee wrote hyselfe downe
An asse.
Hee tryed toe make oute ye Kaiser toe bee
A Manne of Peace,
And ye Hunnes a people from whom oozed
Ye myik of human kyndness.
Thenne, butte toe late,
Hee woke uppe,
And tryed toe recover ye confidence of
Hys fellow-countrymenne,
Ye whyche hee hadde loste.
Hee tryed,
Butte hee fayled;
And toe console hymselfe
Myxed hymselfe uppe wyth Einstein,
Ye Hunn Philosopher,
And hys tosh aboute Relativitie.
Thys beynge a little toe much for hhys brayne,
Hee dyed.

Here Haldane lyes, and everyone
Thynkes itte ye beste thynge hee has done.

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

SIR HILDRED CARLILE, COALITION CANDIDATE FOR EAST HERTS.

GOO' mornin', sir. Can I 'ave the pleasure of doin' anythink for you, or 'ave you jest come in for a rest? You can see the chair is vacant an' yet you plants down on the lounge as if your idea was to stay there! . . . *Tired?* You ain't the on'y one wots tired. Wot about me—standin' all day to make other people look respectable. Come along, sir! There'll 'be other 'customers 'in presently, and I don't wanterkeep 'em waitin' unnecessary. Wot is it? . . . *Shavin'?* Right-o. . . Well, sir, all the Derby excitement's over once more. Any'ow, we've got cricket an' the by-elections to keep us alive. . . . *'Urts?* Wot 'urts? The comb? . . . Oh, *East 'Erts!* Yes, yes. Pemberton-Billin's' late seat. *Wot do I think of the Coalition candidate's chawnce?* Well, I 'appen to know somethink about thet election. I've gotter pal wot's in the know. 'E told me somethink wot makes me think Sir 'Ildred Carlile's chawnces ain't so rosy. . . *Wot was it 'e sed?* Well.

* * *

'Im an' me was 'avin' a glarss in the W'ite 'Orse round the corner, an' I 'appened to say. . . . *You don't wanter 'ear wot I sed, but wot 'e sed?* So you shell. But don't be so bloomin' impatient. Wot's all the excitement? You've gorn a funny colour, sir? Anybody might think *you* was Sir 'Ildred 'imself! . . . Eh? *Thet's 'oo you are?* There I goes again! Shoved me foot in it once more! In the circs. I don't think I'd better tell yer wot my pal sed, Sir 'Ildred. . . . *You don't care a dam wot 'e sed, so long as you know wot it was 'e* did *say?* Well, I don't want you to 'ave a fit, sir—not in my saloon, at any rate—so I'll tell yer. 'E sed the Coalition W'ips 'ad approached 'Oratio Bottomley an' awsked 'im not to put up an' Independent Candidate for East 'Erts at the election, but to let you 'ave a walk over. If 'Oratio would agree to thet, they promised to let an Independent candidate 'ave the seat at the nex' General Election! 'Oratio awnswered thet 'e was sorry 'e 'adn't got enough humour to see the joke. Ha-ha! . . . *Difficult to believe?* Wot's difficult to believe? You ain't intitled to cast no doubt on wot my pal told me in the W'ite 'Orse, although you're a baronet. 'E's an ole pal o' mine. . . . *If it was true, w'y shouldn't Bottomley 'ave accepted the bargain?* Don't make me laugh! 'Oo's goin' to trust the promise of a Party politician? By the time the General Election comes round I'll guarantee thet would be treated like a scrap o' paper! . . . *W'y should thet suggest thet your chawnces ain't good?* Well, I awsk yer—*would* the W'ips make the offer if they was shore of you winnin' the seat? I tell yer, they've got the wind up.

* * *

I ain't sayin' nothink about your record. I know you sat for St. Albans thirteen years, an' done good work for the Red Crorss jurin' the wore. But thet ain't nothink to do with it. We've got enough Party 'acks in the 'Ouse without chew. Wot we want there is Independent politicians. Men with minds of their own. And I fancy we shall see one git in at East 'Erts. Apart from 'im bein' an Independent politician, Admiral Sueter took a more active part in the wore than wot chew did, and 'e's a younger man. . . . Goo'day, sir. I'm much erbliged to yer! . . .

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

"CORNISH EVENING TIDINGS":—"Sunshine at Penzance YESTERDAY totalled FOUR YEARS."

"DAILY GRAPHIC":—"His EYES closed, the WORDS 'KISS ME' FLUTTERED ON THEM, and died."

POULTON-LE-FYLDE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL (circular letter):—"It is the intention of the Gas Committee to reduce the pressure by AT LEAST TEN-TENTHS."

"WOLVERHAMPTON EXPRESS AND STAR":—"In most cafes you take a tray, go to the counter, help yourself to anything you want, get the BILL, then go to a table and EAT IT."

"PREMIER MAGAZINE":—"I have no idea what became of him. I NEVER SAW NOR HEARD OF HIM again. But I HEARD FROM HIM."

"RAINBOW":—"They FOLLOWED HER into the little cottage, and, HOBBLING AFTER THEM, she took a chair with a sigh."

"NEWS OF THE WORLD":—"Cicely STOOD MOTIONLESS, and DREW A LITTLE NEARER THE RAILINGS."

"SUNDAY STORIES":—"The woman gave a SMILE OF INTENSE SORROW."

"HARROW AND WEMBLEY OBSERVER":—"There has risen a generous warmth of desire on the part of Wembley's best residents to make the place WORTH LIVING IN. This has been notably achieved . . . Open spaces have been acquired or improved; ACRES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE BURIAL GROUND."

"BATH AND WILTS CHRONICLE" (advertisement):—"Lost, Tabby Cat . . . SIX PAWS ON FRONT FEET."

"CHRISTIAN NOVELS":—"He was so cold. Whenever the COLDNESS seemed WARMING them some barrier came up between them."

"NUGGET LIBRARY":—"I could hear his VOICE quite plainly COMING UP THE STAIRCASE."

"LEEDS MERCURY":—"Caruso . . . once stood against a wall and AFTER HE HAD INHALED a Steinway concert grand was pushed close up to his chest. Then Caruso EXHALED, and AS HIS CHEST EXPANDED the piano was . . . forced back."

"SUNDAY STORIES":—"Belgrave Square was deserted save for the duke's EMPTY car, IN WHICH PAMELA WAS SITTING

THE RIVALS.

Young King Oil
Set out to foil
The plot of Old King Coal:
To tons of grease
He gave release,
And pointed out the goal;
And Old King Coal felt rather sick
With what he called a dirty trick.

With Old King Coal
Some will condole—
When he suspended toil
He gave a chance
For the advance
Of his rival, Young King Oil:
Now Old King Coal regrets in vain—
He'll never be the same again.

£1,000 SHARED BY TWO READERS.

RESULT OF OUR FIRST TEST MATCH COMPETITION.

The aggregate and highest individual scores in the first Test Match, played at Nottingham, were 521 and 66 respectively. The following two competitors each sent a correct forecast and, therefore, divide the prize of £1,000:—
Mr. W. E. Budd, 8, Fairfax Road, Hornsey, N.
Mr. H. Ritchie, 6, Marlborough Rd., Ealing, W.

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

By OUR CITY EDITOR.

Each inquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Conversion Result.

There has been a good deal of talk of the "misfire" achieved by the new Chancellor of the Exchequer's scheme for converting War Bonds into three-and-a-half per cent. stock, but really the result is not so bad, and if it serves as a reminder that there is still much leeway to be made up in the restoration of national credit, so much the better. The total number of bonds available for conversion represented 632 millions sterling. Of these only 148 millions were offered for conversion. A large proportion of the bonds, however, are held by the banks and insurance companies, who in any case were not likely to exchange them into a long term security. That the whole of the balance, held by ordinary investors, did not come forward for conversion on the favourable terms offered was due to insufficient publicity, and because so many long-term loans have been permitted to drift to a big discount. Those mistakes are remediable by intelligent revision of Treasury advertising methods and by rigid national economy.

Easier Money.

With the turn of the month, conditions in the Money Market show a pronounced tendency towards ease, and despite Treasury Bill operations and further substantial offers of new capital, the slackening process will become more marked if a coal settlement removes an obstacle to a further Bank-rate reduction. Since the beginning of June dividend payments (chiefly on the five per cent. War Loan) have aggregated about 60 millions, and the resultant increase in floating supplies of credit has benefited both investment and speculative groups.

Weak Diamonds.

Diamond shares, under the lead of De Beers, have for some time been one of the most consistently weak features of the mining market. A few days ago professional efforts were made to infuse some strength into De Beers, the time-honoured dodge of sending in buying orders from Paris being resorted to. The rise was met by fresh selling from real holders, and the price succumbed again. There is nothing in the trade position to warrant a recovery in diamond shares just now. As with all other "luxury" trades, the diamond industry is feeling existing world-wide depression very severely.

A Mexican Tip.

Since Mexican securities were last referred to in this column, there have been indications of a hitch in negotiations for "recognition" of the Mexican Government by the United States. These will probably be overcome. When that happens, private New York advices suggest that a number of American millionaires will jump into "specials" and rush South to make the most of the country's available opportunities. Meanwhile Mexican securities are firm, and prices have often approximated to higher levels. The proposed scheme for dealing with interest arrears of Mexican utility companies has long been awaited, and its publication now provides fresh evidence of the steady reorganisation going on in Mexico. If the scheme goes through, as seems probable, Mexico Trams bonds are a cheap purchase around 45. They are to receive under the scheme £2 10s. interest this year and the full £5 per annum interest afterwards, while interest arrears, totalling £25 per Bond, are to be paid off as the company is able.

"Shell" Preference.

"Bear" repurchases of Oil shares have been the order of the day lately. They have checked the fall in values and engendered a brighter atmosphere. The market did not like the Mexican Eagle's intimation that it would issue half-yearly progress reports, instead of announcing important developments, such as new gushers, when they occurred. Quick publicity makes for confidence and healthy conditions. Quiet buying of Shell Preference has been unconnected with the brightening of general conditions. The shares are of £10 denomination, with fixed 5 per cent. interest. At 8⅛ they are a sound, but not extraordinarily attractive, purchase. Buyers, however, think that if the rumoured new capital issue materialises, it may take the form of Preference shares with a higher yield, in which case the return on the existing Preference may be raised, following the recent Burmah precedent.

Attractive Debentures.

The Debenture issue which has just been made by the General Electric Co. struck me as particularly attractive. The stock carries interest at 7 per cent. per annum, and at the issue price of 92½ the yield is very nearly 8 per cent., whilst the assets cover the issue more than two and a half times. In addition to this, the profits have increased during the last three years at a remarkable rate—for the year 1920 they were nearly three-quarters of a million, compared with under half-a-million the year before. It is seldom, even in these times, that investors have such an opportunity.

Advertiser's Announcements.

COMPANY MEETING.

CITY EQUITABLE FIRE INSURANCE

The twelfth annual general meeting of the City Equitable Fire Insurance Company, Limited, was held on June 2, Mr. Gerard Lee Bevan (Chairman of the Company) presiding.

The Chairman, in the course of his remarks, said: In marine business our premium income shows little change. The year has been marked by three distinguishing features. The first is the unusual number of total losses. The great majority of these occurred in the latter part of the year. During the war, as you will remember, mine-laying played an important rôle in the operations of the Navy, but no less remarkable than the science with which they were dotted about the world's trade routes, was the skill and rapidity with which the sea was cleared of them after the declaration of the Armistice. They seemed indeed to have completely disappeared. Then a strange thing happened. Vessel after vessel sailing, I am happy to say, under a foreign flag, set out gaily in quest of adventure, and such was their genius for discovery that within a few days, or even hours, of weighing anchor they lit upon one of these long-lost mines. The epidemic now seems to be on the wane, and I hope we shall not hear much more of them. The second feature is the extraordinary increase of pilferage.

In some places it would hardly be too much to say that a regular toll has been taken of all goods leaving or entering port. When you come to think of it this is not altogether unnatural. In the autumn of 1914 the reign of reason made way for a reign of violence, and possession became the right of the strongest. Habits thus acquired are not easily shaken off. One of the after-effects of the war has been to throw up to the surface the more turbulent and extremist elements of society, and it is only with time that these will sink back to their proper level again. But in the long run public opinion governs, and the dominate characteristic which we possess in common with the greatest of ancient empires—I mean the respect of law—will surely and gradually reassert itself.

Lastly we have to note excessive competition. During the war period the intensive movement of a slowly-vanishing mercantile marine, coupled with the stupendous rise in the value of hulls and cargoes, created an altogether exceptional demand for underwriting. The tide has now set in the opposite direction. Supply has outrun demand, and a great deal of business has been written at unprofitable rates. Could some check be put on this by closer co-operation? In fire business a committee composed of representatives of the leading offices meets at regular intervals to discuss tariffs and other matters, and I ask myself whether a similar body might not be constituted for the handling of the marine side of their business. It is a complex question, but it is worth consideration.

INCREASE OF FIRE BUSINESS.

Fire account is the mainstay of our business, and I am sure you will agree with me that we have every reason to be proud of the way in which our premium income has grown. This year it has taken another big stride forward. For the first time it passes the £2,000,000 mark—the actual figure is £2,071,000—and this has been achieved, let me emphasise, without any departure from our usual practice, viz., to confine ourselves exclusively to treaties with companies of the highest standing. From now on declining values may lessen the volume of some of our treaties, but as against this it was only last year that we embarked on American business—that it cuts a very small figure in this year's accounts, but is bound to expand, and largely expand, in future years. It is the knowledge of this fact which has led us to take certain steps to safeguard and assist us in the extension of our operations. In recent years a number of new companies have been created to transact reinsurance business, in most cases with a comparatively small paid-up capital. Acting separately, it will be very uphill work for them to obtain good business, but pulling together, and in conjunction with a well-established concern like our own, there is no reason why they should not be able to build up a sound, well-spread premium income. It is the old story of the faggots. A single twig is easily snapped, but several of them bound together may become a really powerful weapon.

CITY EQUITABLE ASSOCIATED, LTD.

We have therefore registered an independent company under the title of the City Equitable Associated, Ltd., with an authorised capital of 1,000,000 Eight per cent. Participating Preference shares of £1 each and 100,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each, or £1,100,000 in all. As regards the latter, the great majority of them will be retained by the City Equitable itself. The Preference shares will be entitled in the first place to a fixed dividend of 8 per cent., which will be guaranteed by our own company, the City Equitable. After payment of this dividend, the Ordinary shares will rank next for an amount equal to the amount distributed in any one year to meet the fixed dividend on the Preference shares, while any surplus that may eventually be distributed in excess of this figure will be divided in equal moieties between the Preference and Ordinary shares. The Preference shares are being offered to the shareholders in certain other companies in lieu of their existing holdings, and I may say that the exchange is based upon the value of the free assets of the said companies. These assets, of course, are mainly invested in interest-bearing securities, and the companies which in this manner fall under the ægis of the City Equitable will be conducted on lines identical with those which have hitherto guided us—viz., to put back to reserves the bulk of any underwriting profits which the companies may make, and to distribute by way of dividends a sum, roughly speaking, equivalent to the interest received from invested funds. This interest, therefore, will be paid out in dividends by the operating companies, and the holding company will receive them, and will utilise them in the first instance for the payment of the fixed dividend of 8 per cent. on the Participating Preference shares. No surplus is likely to be available for the Ordinary shares in the first two or three years of the holding company's existence, but you will readily appreciate that the City Equitable possesses in them a very valuable reversion.

THE YEAR'S RESULTS.

Summing up the year's results, we transferred to profit and loss account: From the fire account £76,992, from the marine account £130,079 and from the investment account £73,507, making, with last year's carry-forward of £6,118, a grand total of £286,754 to deal with. After making the necessary deductions for taxation, and allowing for depreciation of funds and directors' fees, the resultant balance is £228,333. We have increased our divided by 6d. a share on the preference shares and 2s. a share on the ordinary shares, making 2s. 6d. on the preference and 10s. per share on the ordinary shares for the year. We have transferred £172,000 to fire reserve, leaving £3,833 to be carried forward. I move the adoption of the report and accounts, and will call on Sir Douglas Dawson to second the resolution, but before putting it to the meeting I shall be pleased to answer any questions which you may care to ask.

Brigadier-General Sir Douglas Dawson, G.C.V.O., C.B., C.M.G., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

TOMMY, JACK AND BADGERS.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheese-paring, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

"Live Horse," etc.:—Jack may live in hopes. We are informed that there will be a further share out of prize money—but it will not be visible until early next year.

Tommy's Trousers:—A soldier in Ireland was ordered out with a raiding party, and when crossing a wall sustained a slight casualty to his trousers, which he subsequently neatly patched. For this crime he got 14 days C.B. and two days R.W.—although, we are told, the officer who sentenced him had a less artistic patch on his own "bags."

Jack's Money:—Salvage money is now ready for distribution in the following cases: Salvage of cargo s.s. *Haverford* by H.M. tug *Danube II.*, June, 1917; salvage of sailing vessel *Roma* by tugs *Peewit* and *Helen Peele*, and drifters *Ruby Gem*, and *Friendly Girls*, on November 8, 1918; and tug *Peewit* for salving the smack *Lizzie May* on the 3rd November, 1918.

Lost or Strayed?—Perhaps the Commander of the R.G.A. battery at Kilroot, Co. Antrim, will find out what became of the fine piano presented to the fort by the civilian neighbours some time ago. We have heard a story anent the instrument that we do not like.

Refreshing!—We have so many moans from the fleet that it is quite refreshing to read the praises of their new C.-in-C. sung by the men serving at the Nore. We congratulate them, and hope that their happy relations with the "Old Man" will always continue.

Concerning a Pension:—From the island of Alderney we hear of a soldier's widow who is in receipt of a weekly pension of £2 4s. 2d., her husband having spent but two years at home in the militia. As the man died of appendicitis, and not as a result of wounds or disease contracted while on active service, we should like to know why any pension was granted.

Saw it in JOHN BULL?—The other day we told you that the Reserves would be disbanded forthwith. And, lo! it is so.

Hope for the Hopeless:—Thousands of workless ex-Tommies have pined to be "back to the Army again," but have been turned down because they lacked the vim to shove a bayonet into an enemy's anatomy. Now the War Department is howling for them to come back if they are tradesmen and if the disabilities produced by the late war has left them sufficient physique to handle their tools. No need to apply to us; see the nearest recruiting officer.

To the Flo-Flo Chaps in India:—You naughty fellows to wear short trousers which make the ultra-moral "officers' ladies" and other Anglo-Indian females blush! We have taken steps on behalf of your comfort, and believe that you will have restored to you those hygienic and eminently comfortable "shorts." Our next effort must be to compel the said ladies in the stations and towns to wear "longs"—up and down.

To the Boys in Ireland:—To parody a hymn, "Shinner's very weary, you are weary too." The department of steel, high explosives and gore called the War Office tells us that you are rather fed-up. Wherefore they are sending reinforcements who will take up your job and give you a rest. But for goodness' sake do not expect that army of 50,000 men promised by irresponsible writers. There "ain't no sich force" to go to your help.

Our Daily "Thank You":—From A. M. T., Lewzie.—"I beg to thank you for the service you have rendered me in respect of pension and arrears, which I have now received. I had been trying to have the matter put right for over eight months without success, and had given up all hope of ever obtaining my money until I wrote to you. Please accept enclosed for your fund."

RACING NOTES.

(All enquiries in respect of sporting matters will be dealt with in the correspondence columns of the SPORTING LIFE.*)*

Our Classic Colts.

It was only the luck of the draw that enabled Humorist to claim a neck verdict over Craig-an-Eran in the Derby. These two colts can meet again in the St. Leger, when, on a more galloping course and Frank Bullock free to ride Lord Astor's colt, the Derby tables will be turned. Though no Ormonde, Leighton will probably win the first mile-and-a-quarter race he runs in—possibly at Newbury, this week. Westward Ho! and Glorioso are also going to train on into useful colts, and perhaps both will be seen at their best when the going is softer.

Newbury Summer Cup.

Lacrosse did not run at Epsom on account of the firm going there. If he runs in this race, he will be hard to beat. Charlebelle, the Oaks winner of last year, is not badly in with 7 st. 9 lb., as she met with bad luck in the "Jubilee." She may, however, have her work cut out to give 20 lb. to Jappool, if only a light-weight can do the latter justice. Lord Cholmondeley's horse should have won the Somersetshire Stakes.

WEEK'S SELECTIONS.

NEWBURY—WEDNESDAY.
Netheravon Handicap—BRANCE.
Kennet Stakes—HEBRIDES.
Royal Stakes—*LEIGHTON.

NEWBURY—THURSDAY.
Berkshire Foal Stakes—*DUGALD DALGETTY.
Newbury Summer Cup—JAPPOOL.
Ogbourne Welter—THOUGHTLESS.

GATWICK—FRIDAY.
Dorking Welter—PRECIOUS.
Gatwick Handicap—MOUNTAIN ROSE.
Manor Welter—*PERION.

GATWICK—SATURDAY.
Emlyn Handicap—DESMOND HOUSE.
June Handicap—KILLINEY.
Home Bred Cup—*GLORIOSO; if absent, FLAMING SWORD.

"The Greatest of These—"

(Registered under the War Charities Act as the JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund.)*

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

Beyond Work:—A widow, now aged, worked at home for 39 years for a trading firm. She is ill and weak—so much so that she had to return the last job sent to her. The poor woman was starving, and was under notice to quit.

Tommy's Trouble:—Suffering from a chest disease, and unable to work, an ex-soldier has a wife who is a cripple, and three little children who were hungry when we were applied to.

Small Income, Large Family:—Another ex-Service man has a wife and seven youngsters to look after, the junior member of the family being a new arrival. The poor fellow has been compelled to enter hospital, leaving his family to fend for themselves on the very few shillings that represent the weekly income.

A Sad Case:—Tuberculous herself, a widow has two sons incapable of working owing to the same disease. The other members of the family are a mentally-deficient child and a widowed daughter who is also in the grip of consumption. The white plague is, in fact, responsible for at least 40 per cent. of the applications sent to us.

Still They Come!:—Whatever may be the case with the fruits of the field, the crop of babies sent as "blessings" to the homes of the poor shows no sign of shortage. We do all we can for the little strangers, but note with regret that no baby clothes have been sent to us for some time.

PRAISE FROM AUSTRALIA.

Many thanks. Our recent appeals have brought in an appreciable increase of subscriptions. But alas! as the poets say, not quite enough to enable us to stem the torrent of growing distress. In order to keep pace, we have been forced to reduce the amount of our grants, much against our will. If you only knew the acuteness of the cases that we do help—usually down and out, no hope, no prospect of the next meal, the landlord clamouring for his rent and threatening eviction. On visiting the humble, stricken home from which the average appeal comes, your eyes would become moist. Make no mistake about it: not one penny of your subscription is handed to the born-tired or the work-shy who batten on the unemployment dole and who spin tear-raising yarns to us, backed too often by soft-hearted and soft-headed clergymen and others who guarantee their cases although they know nothing about them. The idea is abroad among professional cadgers that we are an "easy" fund, but they do not reflect that we have an inquiry department by means of which we detect their schemes within a few minutes.

Our fund is known all over the world, and we receive donations from most out-of-the-way quarters of the globe. Here, for instance, is a letter from Brookvale, New South Wales, enclosing a cheque for the help of our distressed. A fund was started there for the assistance of stranded ex-English Tommies in the country, but when returned Australian soldiers heard of the movement they insisted on "putting down the dust" on the condition that a proportion was sent to our fund. Our Military and Naval Department was always glad to do whatever was possible for our "Aussies" during the war, and this little tribute, after Armistice, has bucked up our officials. The secretary's letter to us says, "Don't blush, but the returned boys always speak very highly of you"—a testimonial that we more than appreciate.

JOHN BULL has done its best for all. You do not live in Australia, but will you send us even your humble shilling? Come along: every penny helps.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE FUND.

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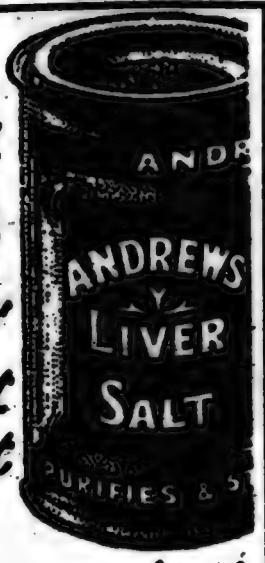

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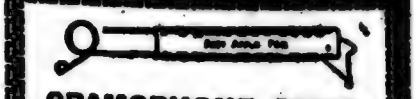

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"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies should be forwarded in the first instance. For a reply by post on personal subjects, a twopenny stamped envelope must be enclosed.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. FINANCIAL or LEGAL enquiries should be addressed to the Financial or Legal Editor, and must be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full name and address should be given.*

E. N. (Gloucester).—"Why doesn't the Government hand over the reins of the present Parliament to you?" Because they know we don't fancy driving a hearse.

S. W. B. (Enfield).—"The Germans are now saying they won the war." A nasty one for the Yanks.

W. A. T. (Exeter).—"I am a Government servant, but I like fair play." If you have been there long, you wouldn't know it unless introduced.

H. N. (Whitley Bay).—"Heap coals of fire on the strikers' heads." Certainly. Now, lend us to the coals.

S. F. (Johannesburg).—"Ask the Cabinet if they are a gang of conspirators, black hands, and body-snatchers." They would simply reply that they "must have notice of that question."

A. R. (Westcliff).—"The Irish were conquered at their own request." Did you also write the yarn of the lamb that bit the wolf?

S. J. (Highgate).—"If an Englishman protests now-a-days, he is thrown into a mad-house." And, if he doesn't, under present conditions he gets there all the same.

A. P. (Kingston).—"Call up the miners who are reservists to work the mines under penalty of death." Don't be inhuman. Why not try skinning them alive to start with?

M. A. (Dalston).—"During the war the young people got married at once." And many appear to have repented quicker than that.

N. B. (Reading).—"In Shakespeare's Henry IV. war is advised to divert attention from strikes and riotings." Perfectly wonderful how we keep up with Shakespeare.

W. M. (Chorley).—If Kaiser Bill ever condemned Party politics, it was because the offenders had revolted from *his* Party.

W. W. (Arbroath).—"The boys saved the taxpayers' skins from Germany." Only to be skinned alive by a wastrel Government.

H. H. E. (Mackay, Queensland).—"Why lead the workers to drink on Sundays?" We don't. A man who needs leading isn't really trying to get there.

"PERPLEXED" (Dublin).—"Why did Mr. Lloyd George not accept the £2,000 annuity bequeathed by Carnegie?" Perhaps a condition was passing a Bill to compel people to use Carnegie's libraries. But *did* he refuse it?

C. J. W. (Bristol).—"A strong boy, likely to do a man's job." May be expected, but not "likely."

D. N. W. (East Lynne).—"Why don't the Government allow us as long as the Huns to pay for the war?" How much longer than your lifetime do you want?

J. L. (N.Y.C., U.S.A.).—"America is the greatest country in the world." Did you ever read of the Frog that burst, trying to blow himself out to look like a Bull?

N. S. (East Molesey).—"Who would be a mother, a working class mother?" We wouldn't for one—although, if things had been different, it might have been otherwise.

C. S. (East London, S.A.).—"Speak nicely, and the British Government will give you anything." Maybe, but they will certainly give you something if you don't!

K. M. (Cork).—"It will be a hard job to make a clean sweep." Still, if you catch him early, soap and a scrubbing-brush would work wonders.

G. A. (Portswood).—"A rate on heavy vehicles would be easy to collect." You must be very tired of life.

T. B. (Weston-super-Mare).—"Please pass on JOHN BULL." Sounds as if you were practising for the "force."

F. C. (Walsall).—"Personally, I think our country has been governed for the honour and love of our people." Then, personally you *don't* think.

B. (Woolwich).—"Fancy giving the Speaker £4,000 pension for not speaking!" And well he earned it. If some others would remain silent, it would be cheap at any figure.

E. K. (Knutsford).—"The present high price of milk is a scandalous shame." But, hadn't you noticed that the Water Rate has gone up recently?

R. D. (Manchester).—"I lodged a claim with the Department concerned." You are exceedingly lucky. Everybody else complains that the Departments are unconcerned.

G. R., H. J., and OTHERS.—You are all confounding National Insurance Unemployment benefit with the Unemployment "dole." No married woman with husband employed can draw the latter.

"ALTONIA" (Altrincham).—"A very wise man knows when to change his religion." When the Vicar offers to sell him back his own trouser-buttons?

C. T. (Manchester).—Glad you like our JOHN BULL Pen exhibit at the Manchester Efficiency Exhibition. Manchester readers always appreciate a bargain when they see one.

D. E. P. (Monmouth).—"It is prophesied this country shall fall. Be wise in time." You cannot have it both ways. If you are right, no wisdom can avert the fall.

H. S. T. (Kingston).—"The artist, in illustrating a 'crochet' competition, has shown the competitors with knitting pins." Perhaps the poor chap couldn't draw a sewing-machine.

P. J. J. (Clapham).—"When I die, I hope to take with me the good will of my friends." The only way is to leave a good will with your lawyers.

E. R. B. (Texas).—"Although I am an American I can see the humorous side of things, and your shafts hit true. We're not infallible by a big lot." Neither are we, so we'll call quits—and "shake!"

B. N. (Chelmsford).—The rogue who cut the girl's locks deserves bolts and bars, and the Magistrate who merely fined him should get a good wigging.

N. U. J. (Canning Town).—"Really, I would rather be a farmer than write for a living." Then, you believe the sward is mightier than the pen?

S. S. (Babbicombe).—"These disputes put family affairs out of joint." Worse, they put a lot of family dinners out of joints.

R. M. (Chester).—"What is the state of the country to-day?" No, a sleep like yours is far too precious to disturb. Keep on snoring.

T. O. C. (Norwich).—"The stay-at-homes made their pile." Why, some of them can almost afford to pay taxes and buy food.

W. S. (Gateshead).—"The enclosed pamphlet shows what we are fed on in this part." We can only hope it will soon be "fed up" not "fed on" as regards such stuff.

A. W. (Dideot).—"We are told to put a new window here, and a cement floor there." Surely you don't suggest putting them anywhere else?

J. D. (Liverpool).—A Magistrate who decided that "anything, dirt or coal, from a mine, must be considered coal," simply proves that any old fool on the Bench is a Magistrate.

L. (Shepherd's Bush).—"Do you know anything of clubs for girls?" No, we thought they were more interested in hearts and diamonds.

W. S. J. (Harrow).—"The ordinary joiser resents the cursed interference with his habits and customs." And dodging the boss about 12 gets harder every day!

A. M. (Huddersfield).—Regret we cannot help you. In your future dealings with circuses, always get cash in advance. They are doubtless now touring in Timbuctoo. All you can do is to curse, sir, curse!

J. H. (Beechwood).—"I know this is a rambling letter, but there may be points." About as plentiful as raisins in a workhouse pudding!

B. T. P. (London).—"If the overleaf statement were put into simple straightforward language——" Having got as far as that we knew it was an official "explanation."

W. W. (Winterbourne).—"I wish you could find time to publish my letter." We have all the time there is, but the Mint couldn't buy the space.

Mrs. J. (Southampton).—"Something could be said for a toll, without the gate." We get all the tolls we can stand from the local bells.

C. A. H. (Kensington).—"Hundreds of girl-widows are going astray!" Nonsense. Such footle as that merely proclaims that one of them has given you the Order of the Boot.

E. C. (Battersea).—"The time has come when I think——" Well, it is not necessarily fatal. A little ice applied to the temples will afford relief.

J. F. (Kilburn).—"You know what your great, great grandmother said of the Welshman's character?" We don't, and, anyhow, the dear old lady never said it to us.

T. U. V. (Maidstone).—"Hope you can read my twitchy note." You got our breathless interest under false pretences. We kept a watchful eye on it, but it simply wouldn't twitch.

H. (Chepstow).—"These wicked miners deserve all they get." Strange, because others who condemn them say they *don't* deserve all they get.

T. W. L. (Leicester).—"I am an isolated victim." We don't quite gather what you are suffering from.

M. M. H. (Taunton).—"To try and get intoxicated on the present-day beer is a waste of time." Didn't you manage it in Leap year?

H. C. (Raynes Park).—"If I had £5 a week I wouldn't call the Queen my aunt." We know plenty who would refrain from the habit for much less than that.

C. R. H. (Wigan).—"I am in a position to know something of the subject I am writing about." Then your chance of an official appointment is about one in a billion.

"FED-UP" (Liverpool).—"I hope my widow will be maintained by a grateful country." Your letter reads as if you are with the spirits, whether dead or not.

T. L. (St. Helens).—"Most of the leaders want to ride in double harness." No, the asses that wear the harness don't do the riding.

A. P. (Berwick).—"If you think this letter will make matters worse, please put it in the wastepaper basket." Intelligent anticipation.

U. M. (Northumberland).—"Under my scheme the lazy ones would get what they worked for." Couldn't you arrange for those who didn't work to owe something?

A. G. W. (Frisco).—"I've done my best to carry out the Golden Rule." You must be feeling pretty lonely in "God's own Country"!

M. N. (Melksham).—"Thought this joke might be worthy of a small corner in your popular paper." Not unless our readers use the microscope.

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

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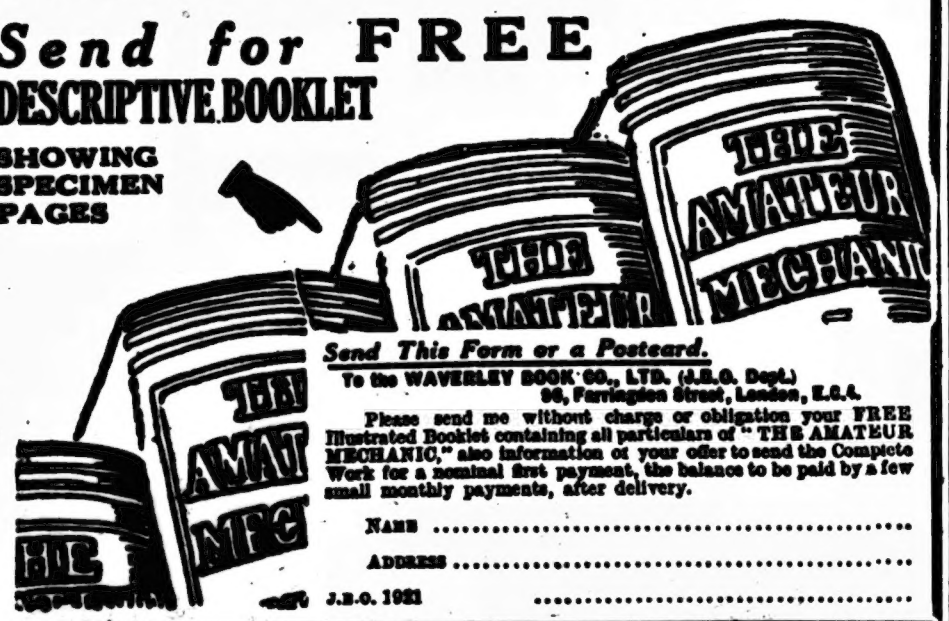

Send This Form or a Postcard.

To the WAVERLEY BOOK CO., LTD. (J.B.O. Dept.)
96, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4.

Please send me without charge or obligation your FREE Illustrated Booklet containing all particulars of "THE AMATEUR MECHANIC," also information of your offer to send the Complete Work for a nominal first payment, the balance to be paid by a few small monthly payments, after delivery.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

J.B.O. 1921 .....

BULLETS

2nd Prize £20

10 Prizes of £5

10 Prizes of £2 10s.

25 Prizes of 10s.

£250

FIRST PRIZE

2,000 POPULAR NOVELS

3rd Prize £10

100 Prizes of 5s.

500 Prizes of 2/6

2000 TARGET PRIZES

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Thirty-two examples given below. Then give TWO, THREE or FOUR words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any ONE of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. This example will guide you:—Example:—FAIR FIGHT. Bullet:—FOR SEAT IN PARLIAMENT. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used, an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 415.

WHEN RACE IS RUN	DEBT OF HONOUR	THE OTHER FELLOW	MODERN MARRIAGE
ENGLISH CRICKETERS	WELL AWAY	INNOCENT	IN QUEER STREET
HARD TO WIN	THE WRONG LOT	FINDING OUR FEET	AGITATORS
IN CHORUS	POOR GERMANY	BIG HIT	SPORTING LIFE
LET OFF LIGHTLY	IN FIRST PLACE	RISKY	WILL NEVER DO
WARWICK ARMSTRONG	UNCERTAIN	CUTS BOTH WAYS	SOFT SPOT
MUST BE MASTERED	ANGRY WIFE	GETTING WARMER	EXTRAVAGANT
NOT MY FAULT	A GOOD POST	PRETTY NEAR THING	ALL RIGHT.

Closing Date, Thursday, June 16th.

No.____
Example____
Bullet____
Example____
Bullet____

(415) P.O. No.____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.

Signed____
Address____

If unable to secure extra coupons you can write your "Bullets" on plain paper.

Closing Date, Thursday, June 16th.

No.____
Example____
Bullet____
Example____
Bullet____

(415) P.O. No.____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 2 Coupons, send P.O for 1s.

Signed____
Address____

Envelopes should be marked "Bullets" No. 415, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Closing Date, Thursday, June 16th.

No.____
Example____
Bullet____
Example____
Bullet____

(415) P.O. No.____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.

Signed____
Address____

Closing Date, Thursday, June 16th.

No.____
Example____
Bullet____
Example____
Bullet____

(415) P.O. No.____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.

Signed____
Address____

SELECTION OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 416.

THE LION'S TAIL—FIRST BABY—MY AMBITION—CAPITAL—PERFECT WIFE—LICK'S CREATION—STRIKING OIL—WHEN TOO LATE—ALL OUT—LABOUR IN VAIN—NO MISTAKE—WRONG AGAIN—THE BIG FIGHT—BRITISH SPORT—A PRETTY PICTURE—OUR BUSINESS—MOTHER'S JOB—NEVER IDLE—NOBODY LIKES—ENEMY AT HOME.

These examples can be made use of on the Coupons above, and must reach us on or before Thursday, June 30th. All Coupons so used MUST be marked clearly with the number 416 in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these Coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. 416, JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty-two Examples for Competition No. 416.

List of Ten-Shilling Prizewinners in "Bullets" Competition 413 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and other Prizewinners can be seen at the offices of "John Bull."

Result of 417th 'Bullets' Competition

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:

Miss MARGARET JEFFREY, 4, St. Andrew's Street, Blackburn.
Example:—THE WAY OUT.
Bullet:—THROUGH GOVERNMENT'S OTHER BAR.

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:

Mr. F. VALE, 32, Empress Road, Egremont, Cheshire.
Example:—IN ENGLAND.
Bullet:—"PLENTY WILL SMILE" EVENTUALLY.

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:

Mr. H. A. SHAW, 112, Stockingate Road, Leytonstone 4.
Example:—HAPPY MAN.
Bullet:—"OWES EVERYTHING" TO HIMSELF.

10 Prizes of £5 each:

Sgt. J. WARBURTON, 22, Wilson Street, Warrington: LET THEM HAVE IT—IF INEVITABLE, THAT'S DIPLOMACY. (Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)
Mr. R. CARR, 6, Norwood Avenue, Southport: WHEN IN DEBT—CHURCH WINKS AT GAMBLING.
Miss C. GRAINGER, Restaurant, High Street, Solihull, Birmingham: MODERN BRIDE—SUGGESTS "BUYING A PUP."
Mr. PEARSON, 90, Walmesley St., Egremont, Cheshire: THE BIG STICK—SEIZED AFTER DOWNING TOOLS.
Mr. T. TUCKER, East Ford, Rose Ash, S. Molton, Devon: NATIONAL GAME—HAS TOO MANY "INTERVALS."
Mr. J. LEES, 8, Whitecroft Street, Oldham: THE BIG STICK—UP ANIMAL TRAINER'S SLEEVE.
Mr. G. T. COXHILL, R.N.S.R., 34, Emma Place, Stonehouse, Plymouth: PASSING THE HAT—MINER'S WIFE THIS SUMMER.
Mr. W. MANNING-COLLINS, Glanmire, Beverley Road, New Malden, S.W.: NATIONAL GAME—EVIDENTLY "TURNING MONEY AWAY."
Mr. G. GIBSON, 109, Wishart St., Dennistoun, Glasgow: IN ENGLAND—"STOPPING PLACE" FOR EVERTON.
Mr. C. V. SLOMAN, 381, High Road, Leytonstone, E.: AT OUR EXPENSE—WE'VE TAUGHT FOREIGNERS SPORT.

10 Prizes of £2 10s. each:

MAUDE OFFAR, 24, Ashdale Road, Terenure, Dublin: WILL TO WORK—ONE VIRTUE IN ALIEN.
Mr. J. TOMLINSON, 40, Hollingreen Road, Burnley: DRAWING THE DOLE—EXCHANGE'S EXCUSE FOR EXISTENCE.
MILLICENT C. MEASURES, Anlaby Road, Teddington: NOVEL HERO—WOULDN'T SUIT HAIG'S BOOK.
Mr. J. WILBERY, Senr., 64, Field St., Bradley, Bilston: INSIDE OUT—LICENSING CONTROL WANTS TURNING.
Mrs. M. E. PARKER, 184, Clifton Street, Brooks Bar, Manchester: GOES NOWHERE—WITH EYES CLOSED—FOREIGNER.
Miss E. COLLARD, 1, Oakhurst, Guestling, nr. Hastings: EARLY AND LATE—TRAINS GRADUALLY BECOMING AMALGAMATED.
Mr. G. H. GOULDEN, 22-24, South Castle St., Liverpool: MODERN BRIDE—IMAGINES "BONDS" ARE "TRANSFERABLE."
Miss E. T. HIGHAM, 25, Bellevue Street, Blackburn: PACK UP—AGAIN—TOMMY TURNS PEDLAR.
NANAY KING, 172, Drummond Road, Skegness: LET THEM HAVE IT—TEUTONS SAYING DIFFERENTLY NOW.
Mr. T. G. SYKES, 28, Carminia Road, London, S.W.12: LOOKS NICE—SO PRICE TICKET MISSING.

BULLETS RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the best being cleverness, aptness and originality.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. As many coupons may be used, and a postal order enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of, which must be made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.
4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned.
5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

The JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to insure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. Yet this All-embracing Offer is entirely free.

We have made our Insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal Representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A complete coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and properly situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published from time to time.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Member's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his or her employment, up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks..	£1 per week

ALREADY PAID 507 CLAIMS.

FULL CONDITIONS.

This offer applies only to persons over 10 years and residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

Any number of persons in one family may be separately insured provided an order for JOHN BULL is placed and a registration form is forwarded in respect of each person.

Claims, which must be confined to one of the benefits, must be received by us within three days of the loss or damage, and in the case of death, such death must occur within thirty days, and as a direct and sole result of the injury.

Payment will be made subject to any rights which the claimant may have or acquire against, or under, any other Insurance Scheme, Company, or otherwise, and the Proprietors of JOHN BULL shall not be liable until the registered reader has exhausted his or her right under such Insurance.

This offer applies only to the dwelling-houses, apartments, or dwelling-rooms attached to business premises of the registered reader, but not to business premises or stock-in-trade.

We reserve to ourselves the right to limit our total payments under this scheme to £10,000, and to discontinue, or make any variation of this offer by the publication of notice in JOHN BULL. The decision of the Proprietors of JOHN BULL upon all questions shall be final.

In order to safeguard ourselves it is stipulated that a fire will not be recognised as such unless a call has been made upon the local Fire Brigade or appliance.

Owing to lack of space, the Newsagents' Order Form and Readers' Registration Form is held over, but will again appear in next week's issue.

NEXT WEEK—'Bullets' Record Three!

First Prize £1,000 Second Prize £250 6,000 Third Prize £100

ONE-WEEK CRICKET COMPETITION!

£250 for ONLY TEN RESULTS MUST BE WON

MUST BE WON! £250 FOR A CORRECT OR NEAREST CORRECT FORECAST OF ONLY TEN RESULTS!

GREAT ONE-WEEK COMPETITION

This competition is exclusive to "JOHN BULL"; coupons do not appear in various other papers.

YOU CAN ONLY USE COUPONS TAKEN FROM THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

THE sum of £250 will be paid to the sender of a coupon containing the correct results of the 10 matches given. If 10 correct results are not given, the £250 will be awarded to the sender of the most correct results, so that in any event the £250 **MUST BE WON.** Scottish and Irish readers can compete. Competitors may send in as many coupons as they like.

ONLY TEN RESULTS! NO ENTRANCE FEE!

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from this week's issue of "JOHN BULL." Coupons must be completely filled in with ink in ordinary handwriting (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed) and in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £250 (Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds) will be paid to the competitor sending a coupon containing the correct results of the ten matches given. If no competitor succeeds in giving all ten correct results, the sum of £250 will be paid to the sender of a coupon with the most correct results. In the event of a tie or ties, the prize to be won will be equally divided amongst the successful competitors. No competitor can receive more than one share of the £250. Matches once started and not played to a finish will be considered as drawn. Should a match be abandoned without a ball being bowled, it will be disregarded in awarding the £250 prize.

HOW TO FILL UP YOUR COUPONS.

If you think the "Home" team will win, place a X in the column headed "Home"; if you think the "Away" team will win, place a X in the column headed "Away"; if you think the result will be a draw, place a X in the column headed "Draw." **Only one X must be entered for each match.** Coupons must be completely filled up in ink.

(3) Ten crosses in all must be marked on each coupon, one for each match. Coupons marked otherwise will be disqualified.

(4) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into, nor will interviews be granted.

(5) Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified. Any coupon received later than June 16th will be disqualified.

(6) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this Competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Cut out Coupon neatly, and address all entries as follows: **Cricket Competition No. 3, "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.** Write "Cricket" in top left-hand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but this must not contain entries for other Competitions.

COMPETITORS MAY SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS THEY LIKE.

"JOHN BULL" FREE CRICKET COUPON.

Closing Date, Thursday, June 16th.

MATCHES TO BE PLAYED JUNE 18th-24th.

HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM	HOME	AWAY	DRAW
Middlesex	v.	Lancashire			
Gloucestershire	v.	Kent			
Sussex	v.	Oxford University			
Essex	v.	Hampshire			
Worcestershire	v.	Somerset			
Glamorgan	v.	Derbyshire			
Hampshire	v.	Notts			
Warwickshire	v.	Cambridge Univ.			
Essex	v.	Sussex			
Derbyshire	v.	Somerset			

☛ **Coupons must be cut—not torn out.**

I enter "JOHN BULL" Cricket Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding and enter on that understanding.

(3) SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

☛ ANOTHER BIG ONE-WEEK CRICKET COMPETITION NEXT WEEK.

War on Skin Disorders.

Waged by new Aseptic Methods.

Germolene—Soothes at a touch.

OFFERED FREE TO THE PUBLIC.

Germolene has declared war on skin disorders, and in the battle it is now waging it is bound to win because no germ which gives rise to such troubles as eczema, psoriasis, ringworm, rashes, piles, and pimples can withstand it. It is aseptic—it does not merely kill germs but excludes them, and it does so in a bland and kindly way, having a soothing influence in the case of all pain, itching, and irritation. Wounds, bad legs, sores, burns and scalds are also soothed and healed by Germolene.

You may test Germolene free of all cost if you will send a postcard for a post-paid sample tin to the Veno Drug Co., Ltd., Manufacturing Chemists, Manchester. You will also receive an interesting book giving important particulars relating to the cure of skin diseases. Germolene costs 1s. 3d. and 3s. at chemists.

GRAVES

GRAMOPHONES — The World's Best

Positively unrivalled in tone-quality and the very essence of dependability. Built throughout with infinite care and precision, and finished with consummate excellence. Powerful, silent running Motor, beautifully polished Oak Cabinet with tasteful Art Metal Panel. Handsomely decorated Soundbox. Nickel plated Fittings. Natural Tone Sound Box, etc.

10/ NOW.

DELIVERED carriage paid with 12 magnificent Two-tone Selections for 10/- with order. If satisfied the balance is payable in 10 monthly payments of 10/- Money back if dissatisfied. Catalogue Post Free. Write for list of new models. Easy terms of Payment.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

SMALL ADS. WORTH WATCHING

1s/- per line. (Minimum 3 lines.)

BEST AND CHEAPEST wholesale warehouse for beginners. Remnants, Drapery, Readymades, Travellers' Samples. Send for catalogue. Cochrane's Warehouse, 1, Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

GOOD SPARE-TIME AGENCY.—Applications invited from respectable working men in regular employment to supply Boots, Suits, Drapery, Watches and Jewellery for cash or credit. Liberal supply of samples. Commission highest paid.—Apply, Freeman, Contractors, H.M. Government, Lavender Hill, London.

SMOKERS.—We will supply Begum (Regd.) Saint James' Cigarettes at wholesale price, 10/6 for 250, guaranteed freshly made; wonderful value. 2/3 sample 50. Satisfaction or money returned. Begum Cigarette Co., Ltd., Dept. J., 38, King Street, St. James's, London.

MANUFACTURER'S OFFER.—Grey Flannel Trousers at 14/-, splendid quality, carriage paid. All wool Sports Coats, 35/-. Write for patterns. Cash refunded if not satisfied.—Alex. F. Dickson, 314, Gt. Western Street, Busholme, Manchester.

CHEAPEST wholesale warehouse for Drapery, Hosiery, Boots and Clothing. Best house for beginners. Send for Free Catalogue and Guide.—H. Marks, 81/83, Houndsditch, London, E.1.

DO YOU ADVERTISE?—Your advertisement inserted in 240 Provincial Newspapers for 7/10. London and Suburban series same price.—Write for prospectus, Central Press (Series Dept. 60), 190, Strand, London, W.C.2.

B.C.F. OINTMENT (est. 100 years). Swift-sure remedy for Poisoned Wounds, Boils, Abscess, Ringworm, etc. 3/9. Chemists, or Baker, 146, Strand, England.

BLOUSES.—Parcels from 42. Wholesale List and advice to beginners, 2d. stamp.—S. & J. Ireland, Ltd., Dept. 3, 89a, Market St., Manchester.

REAL HARRIS and Lewis Homespuns, direct from makers, best quality only; patterns free. Harris Tweed Depot, James Street, Stornoway.

INCREASE your Income. You can earn £6 a week by selling boots on commission. Write for full particulars, Maximum Shoe Co., Ltd., 92, Maximum Works, Northampton.

HIMROD'S ASTHMA CURE

The Standard Remedy For Over 80 Years
Safest and quickest remedy for Catarrh, Ordinary Colds and Asthmatic Troubles. At all Chemists. 4s. 6d. a tin.

CANVASSERS calling on private houses offered first-class line selling at 1/3. Universal demand. Splendid terms.—Roberts 74a, Wigmore Street, London, W.1.

NEW Spring Suit lengths at to-day's reduced prices. Patts. free. The Worsted Manufacturing Co. (Dept. 10), 81, Exchange, Huddersfield.

£5 to £10 weekly can be easily earned for a small outlay of 30/-; no previous experience necessary.—Write for particulars to H. Levaine, (Dept J.B.), 143, Houndsditch, London.

HARRIS TWEEDS, all Wool, hand-made, retain good appearance throughout, last much longer than "Mill-spuns." Patterns free. Mrs. Morrison (Dept. JB), Leverburgh, Harris, N.B.

SUITS TURNED SUCCESSFULLY.—Real and Prices—write Invisible Repair Co., Dept. J.B., St. Martin's Court, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

"CATALOGUE, PLEASE." — Write these two words on a postcard, and I will send you the finest of all Catalogues. Cycles, Tyres, and every Accessory. Lowest prices on record. It's a mighty big list. Post free.—H. Fitzpatrick, Dept. 88, Burnley.

DRESSMAKING learnt at home, six simple lessons, complete course 21/-, easily make all your own clothes. Write, Artcraft, 129, Cheapside, E.C.

CYCLISTS. YOU CAN'T BEAT US for Big Cash Savings in Cycles and Accessories. Test that statement. Write for Free Copy of our Monster 144-page Catalogue and compare prices. When you see the astonishing offers we are making you'll be jolly glad you sent that post-card. Anyway, it costs you nothing to see, so Write Now. — Moorhouse, Ltd., Dept. 89, Padiham, Burnley.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.—Semi-skilled men for training and skilled tradesmen for many trades required, including clerks, etc. Ages 18 to 38 ex-Service men, and 18 to 28 civilians. Pay commences at rates between 3/- and 5/6 per day, according to trade. Marriage allowance paid to married men of 26 years and over, with allowance for children. Write or call, Inspector of Recruiting, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., or R.A.F. Recruiting Depots, Crown Buildings, James Watt Street, Birmingham; or 298, Bath Street, Glasgow; or 11, St. Anne Street, Liverpool; Officer Commanding, R.A.F. Recruiting Depot, 15, Old Town Street, Plymouth.

JOHN BULL TRAVELLING-CASE

Strong, Cheap, Durable. Special for the holidays. Obtain your Travelling-Cases direct from the manufacturers. Special offer. Strong brown fibre Cases. Prices 22 in. 17/-; 24 in. 18/6; 26 in. 20/-. Carriage paid.

Complete Catalogue from CASE FACTORY, Dept. M. 69, Fuller Street, London, E. 2.

£100 FOR TEN WORDS

Enter the "Happy Endings" Competition in the "PASSING SHOW." Buy this week's copy—you will be very interested.

No Entrance Fee.

Here is an example:

Packed by Nestlé

Sold Everywhere

Grocer: "Yes. I deal in a deal of 'Ideal' Milk. People are getting to know what a handy thing it is to have in the house. And now the strawberries are coming in . . . .

Finish it off in ten words or less. To get full details you must buy the best of all humorous journals

THE PASSING SHOW

Send to-day for this free illustrated Catalogue of gifts given in exchange for front panels of

Black Cat
Virginia Cigarettes

The best 10 for 6d. Virginia Cigarette made is now produced on the new Baron Machine, the wonder of the world. The saving it effects is too small on each packet to permit of any price reduction, but sufficient to enable us to give handsome and useful gifts.

A new illustrated list containing about 100 illustrations of free gifts for men, women and children has just been issued and will be sent post free on application.

FOR 30 FRONT PANELS,
6d. size of Black Cat Cigarettes, we will send post free, a beautiful satin picture, size 12 in. by 11 in., reproduced in 12 colours on heavy satin. These have been reproduced in England at great expense and can be used to make charming pictures, cushion covers, satchets, etc.

10 for 6D

SPECIAL GIFT COUPON

10 for 6d **BLACK CAT CIGARETTES** 10 for 6d

This coupon will be accepted as Five Front Panels of the 10 for 6d. size with every 95 panels sent. Thus this coupon and 95 panels will count as 100 panels, two coupons and 190 panels as 200, and so on.

Send a postcard to-day for illustrated catalogue of gifts. There is something in it to suit everybody.—*This coupon is not good after June 30th, 1921.*

CARRERAS, LTD., (Dept.J.B.),
City Road, London, E.C.

MORE THAN 18,000 BRITISH DOCTORS HAVE TAKEN UP

CICFA
FOR
INDIGESTION

and HUNDREDS of these HAVE WRITTEN us of the SPLENDID RESULTS they have obtained by its use in PRACTICE and in their HOMES.

Physicians' names and addresses must never be published: therefore, when a prominent physician wrote us recently doubting the accuracy of our statements, we invited him to call and examine the original letters and cards which we had received from those Physicians, assuring him that they would prove the correctness of our statements. He called, bringing a solicitor to assist him in thoroughly examining, and, after they had made a full examination, he expressed his surprise, and declared that all his doubts were removed and he was entirely satisfied, because we had shown him absolute proof of the truthfulness of our every statement.

When SO MANY BRITISH DOCTORS are so SATISFIED with CICFA you do not need a sample to prove its value to you. YOU CAN CONFIDENTLY COMMENCE TAKING IT AT ONCE.

CICFA restores NATURAL DIGESTION in Stomach and Bowel, with steady disappearance of gases which often cause pressure and pain around the heart through Stomach Indigestion, also that feeling of weight at the pit of the Stomach a couple of hours after eating through beginning Bowel Indigestion, gradual disappearance of Fermentation with Flatulence and Acidity, as well as gradual disappearance of those little hard masses called "Starch Balls"; so that all the contents of the Bowel become digested, the nourishment absorbed into the system and the Refuse naturally expelled. Gradually the natural functions of all the organs of digestion are restored, and by such assistance permanent improvement is secured

INDIGESTION SYMPTOMS

in Stomach	in Bowels
GASES in STOMACH with eructations.	GASES in BOWEL or Flatulence.
Sharp Neuralgic HEADACHES.	Dull, Heavy HEADACHES.
ACID in Stomach with HEARTBURN.	ACIDITY causing Gout and Rheumatism.
TONGUE coated white all over.	TONGUE coated yellow at back.
COMPLEXION blotchy, with redness of Nose.	COMPLEXION muddy or pasty.
EATING disliked. Some Nausea.	EATING disliked or loathed. Biliousness and bad taste in mouth.
PAINS darting through Chest. Burning Spot behind left Shoulder Blade.	PAINS in Bowel, Griping and CONSTIPATION.

Sold Everywhere. *Prices 1s. 3d. and 2s.*

THE CICFA CO.,
8, DUKE ST., MANCHESTER SQ., LONDON, W.1

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